Sunday, April 10, 2011 | 44 sections / Vol. 35 / No. 123 / P20 | www.inquirer.net | Manila Times

P-Noy hails 'unsung heroes'

Educators warn solons: Marcos was not a hero

EYEWITNESS

As the Philippines marked Araw ng Kagitingan yesterday, Catholic educators issued a strongly worded statement calling on the lawmakers who had signed a House resolution endorsing the burial of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos in the heroes' cemetery to withdraw their signatures.

The resolution initiated by Rep. Salvador Escudero last month has been signed by 230 congressmen.

The Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines (CEAP), the largest organized group of Catholic schools and institutions, said the claims that Marcos was a war hero were false, and warned school administrators to be vigilant against the attempts to revise history.

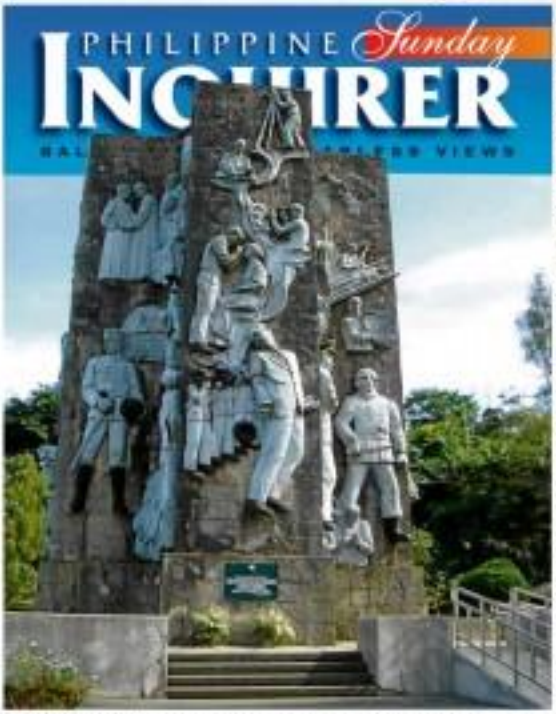
It pointed out that it was Marcos' corrupt dictatorial regime that had turned the Philippines into the "sick man" of Asia.

It added that burying Marcos at the Libingan ng mga Bayani would "demonize" the People Power Revolution that ousted him in 1986 and made Filipinos famous worldwide for peaceful regime change.

"Was Marcos really a 'well-decorated soldier'? He may have been a war veterans just like many Filipinos of his generation. But it hurts certainly be true not," CEAP said.

"As we celebrate Araw ng Kagitingan to commemorate the heroism of those who fought bravely during World War II, let us not make a mockery of the service and sacrifice of Filipinos who were willing to give a hero's burial to someone who is not only a false war hero but was also responsible for undermining democracy and development during his long tenure.

READ STORY ON A10



CRADLE OF NOBLE HEROES To commemorate our heroes, a monument rises in Mount Samat in Pilar, Bataan. Though the Dambana ng Kagitingan underlines the valor of the Filipino soldier in Bataan, its base features historical heroes like Jose Rizal, Andres Bonifacio, Antonio Luna, Emilio Jacinto, Emilio Aguinaldo and the courageous priests collectively known as Gomburza.

69 years after WW II, nation still thanking vets

By Norman Bordadora

PILAR, Bataan—Tens of thousands of Filipino and American soldiers, both living and dead, were lauded by President Aquino for their uncommon valor in yesterday's commemoration of Araw ng Kagitingan at the World War II mountaintop shrine here.

Mr. Aquino said the Philippines would not be in a democracy now if not for the soldiers who put up a heroic resistance before succumbing to the superior forces of the Japanese invaders in Bataan 69 years ago yesterday.

"I know that you, our veterans, may have lost some battles during those times, but your courage and love for country became instrumental in winning a larger war—a war to awaken the Filipino heart, which allowed us to achieve independence," he said in a speech.

A day after the Social Weather Stations announced that his late parents—former Sen. Benigno Aquino Jr. and former President Corazon Aquino—ranked behind only Emilio and Andres Bonifacio as the Filipinos' "real heroes," Mr. Aquino particularly paid tribute to those lacking in accolades.

"There are the named and the nameless. Today, we gather to pay a tribute to our unsung heroes," he said.

US Ambassador Harry Thomas and Japanese Ambassador Makoto Katsura delivered their own speeches at the Mt. Samat ceremony. Among the other Filipino officials present were Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin, Education Secretary Armin Luistro and top military officials.

War veterans and their families also participated in the event.

The President said that three generations after the war, the government was still trying its best to show its gratitude in terms of services for the veterans' families.

"More than seven decades after, we still remember your sacrifices," he said, adding:

"Our generation has a lot to learn from our veterans. We would do well

START A10

Pa's $1,000 to pay for info on missing son

By Fe Zamora

SAN ANTONIO (Nueva Ecija Trust) Cleopatra

His father, retired Air Force Col. Nilo L. Cleopatra Sr., has been looking for him for the past 26 years.

Last month, Cleopatra received on Jose's behalf the $1,000 compensation that a United States court had ordered distributed to rights abuse victims of the Marcos dictatorship.

He is offering the money as a reward to anyone who can give him information about his missing son.

In August 1983, the young Cleopatra, newly graduated from the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), had joined the August Twenty-One Movement (Ating), one of the protest groups in have emerged in the wake of the brutal killing of opposition leader Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. He was 26 years old at the time.

Two years later, on Dec. 12, 1985, he called up his father in Chicago.

NEWS, PAGE A10

Japan evacuees move to 5-star hotel but no room service

TOKYO—People made homeless by Japan's quake-tsunami disaster began moving into a luxury Tokyo hotel on Saturday, a report said.

The 700-room Grand Prince Hotel Akasaka, where rooms used to be advertised at private rates Y60,000 yen ($1,700) a night, will become a temporary home for up to 300 people, Kyodo reported, citing government officials.

Room service will not be available, but the hotel-chain will serve three meals a

JAPAN A18

Soldiers of peace: Son picks up where father left off

By Doris Z. Pizzaguan

THE GENERAL who is steering the Armed Forces away from its long held belief in a purely military solution to the insurgency problem is the son Bayanihan strategy that calls the "winning the peace rather than just defeating the enemy" knows fully well the price of making peace.

"That served as my inspiration," said Maj. Gen. Emmanuel Bautista, pointing to a special issue of a military magazine dated October 1977 that he keeps in his office at Camp Aguinaldo.

The cadet issues of an Army officer at his prime has been immortalized in the cover photo, captioned "Soldier of Peace."

The photograph is that of Bautista's father, brig. Gen. Teodolfo Bautista, 69 years old at the time, just before the infamous Dec. 10, 1977, Ifugao massacre, a flash point in the decades-long war with Muslim rebels.

The patrol unit of 34 of his officers and men had gone to a market in Datang, Pitiket, to meet with a group of Moro Nat'onal Liberation Front (MNLF) rebels led by Usman Sali who had indicated a willingness to talk about a ceasefire.

According to the testimony of the lone survivor, the patrol, who had insisted on going unarmed for the peace mission, "had just shaken hands with a smiling Usman Sali and some of his men when a shout was heard and scores of rebels materialized and ruthlessly cut down the soldiers with a volley of gunfire."

The national outrage at the treachery led the distance Ferdinand Marcos to publicly question the wisdom of negotiating peace with the MNLF, the main Muslim insurgency which would continue to fight the government for

BANGSAMORO A19

Willie: Don't pulverize me; I want to help poor

By Marinel R. Cruz
Entertainment

"NINE K'YO along Abakiliki. Taxi ako nanaaring tan. Don't pulverize me. I'm not a bad person. I just want to help the poor."

Thus declared beleaguered TV host Willie Revillame, whose game show "Willing Willie" goes off the air for two weeks starting Monday, in reaction to a flood of critics and detractors.

Revillame has threatened to sue for libel those his personalities who had posted negative comments about him on the Web.

Revillame delivered an emotional 23-minute speech at the end of his program on Friday night. Among other things, he accused celebrities Lea Salonga, Jim Paredes, Bea Saguisag, Monday Vargas, Agot Isidro, Mylene Dizon and Ramon Gonzales of "propaging" him on the microblogging site Twitter.

"We belong to the same industry. Instead of passing judgment permanently you should be helping me help other people," he said in Filipino. "You've destroyed my person. Are you helping the poor? You should first look in the mirror and ask yourself this question: What good have you done for your country?"

Revillame also announced his decision to support TVJ's plan to charge blogger and culture critic John L. Gilos with libel.

In his site www.johnlvalibogspot.com, the blogger branded Revillame and TVJ, which copyrighted and airs "Willing Willie," as pedophiles. This was in connection with Revillame's alleged exploitation of a 9-year-old boy who performed a "macho dancer" during the show's March 12 episode.

The incident has drawn negative reactions from government agencies like the Commission on Human Rights, the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB), which copyrighted and airs "Willing Willie," as pedophiles. This was in connection with Revillame's alleged exploitation of a 9-year-old boy who performed a "macho dancer" during the show's March 12 episode.

The incident has drawn negative reactions from government agencies like the Commission on Human Rights, the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB), which

NEWS
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SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2011

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

P2/3RD
16 19
23 18
6 26

SUERTRES
9 3 2
4 5 5
7 8 7

SIX DIGIT
9 1 0 2 8 5

EXTRA 6/49 +MIN
05 10 12 14 36 40
P16,077,432.00

6/55 GRAND LOTTO
04 05 21 24 36 47
P96,452,319.60

'Merci should get credit for return of Ligot funds'

By Leila B. Salaverria

EMBATTLED Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez should also get credit for the Philippine government's receipt of $132,000 in proceeds from the sale of a forfeited California property owned by the wife of former military comptroller Jacinto Ligot.

According to Assistant Ombudsman Jose de Jesus, it was Gutierrez who initiated the request in 2009 for the money equivalent to about P5.7 million to be turned over to the Philippine government.

"We are happy that the efforts of the Ombudsman, under the watch of Ombudsman Gutierrez, in having this check delivered to the Philippine government, have paid off," said De Jesus, the agency's spokesperson, in a statement.

De Jesus said that when the Office of the Ombudsman was informed that the property in Buena Park, California, purchased by Irlinda Ligot had been put up for sale, Gutierrez immediately wrote then Justice Secretary Agnes Devanadera to ask the United States to turn over the proceeds of the sale to the Philippine government.

Gutierrez sought the proceeds under the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) between the Philippines and the United States.

The Office of the Ombudsman earlier filed a forfeiture case against Ligot and his wife, children, sister and brother-in-law in connection with unexplained assets whose value far exceed his declared income. The case is pending in the Sandiganbayan.

Gutierrez made request

De Jesus said that based on Gutierrez's request, Ombudsman got in touch with the US government to ask for the proceeds from the sale of the California property.

Irlinda Ligot reportedly purchased the property on June 6, 2004, for $599,500.

The property located at 7182 Stanton Ave., Buena Park, California, went through asset-forfeiture proceedings in the United States and was ordered forfeited. It was sold in December 2010 for $132,000.

On Thursday, US Ambassador Harry Thomas turned over a check for $132,000 to Justice Secretary Leila de Lima.

"I am pleased to announce the first ever return of funds from the asset forfeiture cases, where the US government is returning $132,000 to the Philippine government," Thomas told reporters.

"This is a result of a 2009 request for assets belonging to the wife of former comptroller Jacinto Ligot," he added.

De Lima has since informed the Office of the Ombudsman about the receipt of the sale proceeds through a letter. It was the first time that a foreign government had turned over forfeiture assets to the Philippines under the MLAT, she said.

She said the money would be turned over to the Bureau of Treasury.

Aside from the forfeited property in Buena Park, the Ligots also own properties in Walnut City and Anaheim, California.

The Sandiganbayan has issued a freeze order on the Ligots' properties nearly P130 million in connection with the forfeiture case.

Gutierrez has been impeached in the House of Representatives for, among other things, betrayal of the public trust. She is set to undergo an impeachment trial in the Senate in May.

Motorists warned on special plates

By Marlon Ramos

THE PHILIPPINE National Police Highway Patrol Group (PNP-HPG) yesterday reminded owners of private vehicles to refrain from using unauthorized plates to skirt the number coding system in Metro Manila and avoid being stopped for traffic violations.

Chief Supt. Leonardo Espina, PNP-HPG chief, said employing a vehicle's front license plate with a commemorative plate is a violation of Republic Act No. 4136, the Land Transportation and Traffic Code of the Philippines.

"In a general rule, commemorative plates should be placed side by side or on top of the original license plate," Espina said in an interview.

"Commemorative and special plates are not meant to excuse anyone from traffic rules, especially the number coding system being implemented in the metropolis," he said.

The PNP-HPG has been receiving complaints about the abuse of commemorative plates by motorists.

Among the subject of complaints were vehicles with "NBI 071" plates which the National Bureau of Investigation issued ahead of its 71st anniversary on November.

While the use of special plates is authorized, Espina said motorists should not abuse the privilege and always respect traffic rules.

Last year, the PNP-HPG launched a nationwide crackdown on vehicles with unauthorized commemorative plates after President Aquino expressed his disgust over abusive motorists using them.

Espina said he had directed all PNP-HPG stations nationally their operations against the illegal use of commemorative plates even as he urged the public to report violations.

Espina also reminded motorists to observe the 10-point guideline issued by Interior Secretary Ce'sar de Lima in the conduct of checkpoint operations.

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Are PH, Batasan ready for 'big one'? solons ask

By Cynthia D. Balana

LAWMAKERS yesterday moved to seek answers on how well the country was prepared to meet a quake-and-tsunami disaster, noting that the Philippines, along with Japan, sits on the "Pacific Ring of Fire."

Several congressmen were particularly concerned about the Batasang Pambansa complex in Quezon City, seat of the House of Rep. resolutions, and wanted to know if they could withstand a 7.2-magnitude earthquake.

Lot Pilar Rep. Mark Villar said that while earthquakes were inevitable, the extent of damage they would cause depends on the preparedness of a government and its citizenry.

"It should not be taken lightly as it is apparent that an earthquake will soon hit our country," Villar said.

Villar drew attention to the damage wrought by the 9-magnitude earthquake that hit Japan's northeastern coast last month which unleashed a seven-meter tsunami and was followed by more than 100 aftershocks within hours, measured at magnitude 6.0 on the average.

"Like Japan, the Philippines lies on the 'ring of fire'—an arc of earthquake and volcanic zones stretching around the Pacific where about 90 percent of the world's quakes occur, including the one that triggered the Dec. 26, 2004, Indian Ocean tsunami that killed about 230,000 people in 12 nations," Villar said.

Mambabatas Bap. Rodolfo Biazon, chair of the committee on national defense and security, asked the Department of Public Works and Highways to conduct a thorough assessment of the disaster-readiness of the Batasang Pambansa buildings and all government buildings in the country.

"We in Congress believe that we will need to gather further observations and investigations on how to deal with disasters brought by natural calamities like earthquakes and tsunamis or we wouldn't know how to legislate—to act—in disasters like that," Biazon said.

"That's why we are asking the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council to address this concern because it is they who would know what kind of legislation we should prepare. They are the specialists," he added.

In a recent hearing of the committee headed by Biazon, Priscilla Duque, director of the Office of Civil Defense, said although the Batasang Pambansa complex was not actually situated on a fault line, studies had shown that areas near fault lines could, in fact, experience greater damage.

Biazon urged the House sergeant-at-arms and security personnel to conduct earthquake drills for the congressional staff.

3 quakes rock parts of Luzon

THREE separate earthquakes rocked various parts of Luzon yesterday, the strongest with a magnitude-5.4 tremor that had its epicenter off Labrang, Occidental Mindoro, according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs).

The quake jolted at 6:22 p.m. was felt at Intensity 4 in Looc and Labrang, and at Intensity 3 in Puerto Galera, San Teodoro and Baco, Oriental Mindoro; Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro; Quezon City, Manila, Makati, Mandaluyong, Marikina and Guagnino, Bulacan.

No aftershocks or damage were reported.

Later at 11:49 a.m., a 3.5-magnitude tremor was recorded off Casiguran, Aurora.

Shortly after, a weaker quake occurred at 12:25 a.m. with its epicenter located off Visible Island. No aftershocks or damage were reported from these quakes either. There were no recorded casualties for the last two quakes.

The US Geological Survey registered the first quake at 5.2 magnitude at a relatively shallow depth of 24 kilometers.

Earthquakes are a common occurrence in the country after the killer earthlets that hit Japan, New Zealand and China recently.

Leila B. Salaverria, AFP

Duty Free revives awards program

THE DEPARTMENT of Tourism's (DOT) travel retail agency, Duty Free Philippines (DFP), has relaunched its Flores Travel Awards Program to help boost tourist traffic and give added incentives to travel agencies and tour guides at Duty Free Fiesta malls.

In his speech during the relaunch held at DFP's Pavilion3 store in Pasay City, Tourism Secretary Alberto Lim lauded the agency's revival of the program in support of the DOT's mission of promoting tourism as a major socioeconomic activity and spreading the benefits of tourism to both the private and public sectors.

He expressed the DOT's support for DFP projects.

"The Department of Tourism's goal is to double visitor arrivals on or before the end of President Aquino's term. The DOT is currently implementing programs [so that] will benefit the tourism industry and drive increase revenues. The DOT to sustain these targets will be met with the implementation of its 4-point program, specifically the opening of tourism accessibility, improvement of tourism infrastructure, stewardship and developing tourism products, and enhancement of marketing strategies."

For his part, DFP head Lourdes Romeon said at the affair the DFP had embarked on an awareness campaign, putting up billboards at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and painting the Personnel and windscreen roofs with signs greeting plane passengers. DFP has also revised a Tours book for pax, Twitter account and website at www.dfp.com.ph, he said.

Alberto C. Clemente, Philippine Travel Agencies Association president, pledged the group's support for the DFP's Flores Travel Program as well as the DOT's projects.

Appreciating Apps

How mobile applications let you design the best smartphone for yourself

Last week, we talked about smartphones and how these little yet amazing devices are starting to improve the way we communicate and live our lives. We hope by now, you are already familiar with their features and functions, or better yet, you have gotten yourself a new smartphone!

And so now you're a proud owner. Good for you! Expect your friends and colleague to ogle over your new acquisition while you give them a quick demo. But what do you say when they tell you, "Cool story bro. But what apps have you got on it?"

'Apps' what? Don't panic! This week we will guide you again and tell you about the wonderful world of apps.

'Apps' of course is short for applications – those little programs or software we install on our smartphones. Apps enhance our mobile internet experience with their efficient way of accessing and sending data to perform their specific functions. Different from mobile web browsers, apps actually come in buttons, widgets or windows that are highly responsive to our every tap, slide, flick or pinch.

Today, because of the smartphone's operating systems (or OS), we are able to customize our phones with the apps that we want, we need or simply just fancy. We build and design our very own, personalized device by choosing and installing apps that suit our lifestyle and personality.

Remember when mobile phones had a 'down-time'? We actually just down the phone when we're not using it to call or text. Sometimes, we'd play a game where a dot-matrix snake would swallow bricks, but that was it. Fine, sometimes we use the calculator too!

And then smartphones entered the picture and things changed. Suddenly, our mobile phones became capable of doing so much more than call and text. Some people couldn't even put their phones down anymore. With smartphones that are constantly connected to the infinite world of the internet, we just couldn't run out of things to do.

What happened? What made smartphones smarter? **Apps happened.**

There are thousands of apps out there to choose from, some are free, and others come with a price. In the Android Market alone, there are already more than 200,000 apps available for download, and new ones are getting added everyday.

The Android Market covers all smartphone owners' app needs, be it for information, productivity, connectivity and social networking, gaming or multimedia.

Examples of **information apps** are the applications from publishers, news organizations, blog sites, communities, even weather and sports to make sure you have real-time updates.

Productivity apps meanwhile make every smartphone one's personal assistant with notepads, journals, document reading and editing programs to specialized alarm clock and calorie calculator.

Connectivity and social networking apps let you update your status, check-in at a new place and earn badges, post photos and send tweets anytime, anywhere.

Gaming apps of course make your smartphones your hands gaming consoles especially with addictive games like Angry Birds, Plants & Zombies and a lot more. The Android App Market has an extensive collection of games you can choose from.

Lastly there are the **apps for multimedia** lifestyle online apps quickly, read e-books and magazines and listen to internet radio stations, all with your smartphone.

We are slowly entering a fully app-driven world, and with the way SMART is bringing future-ready devices, services and technologies, we can say that things are really looking APP.

My FAVE Apps

What's up with Android

- Theme and user interface touch-ups
- Redesigned virtual keyboard with different font
- Switch to voice mode to make text entry easy
- Multitouch capabilities to make keyboard shortcuts
- One-touch text selection
- Power manager shows some CPU-hogging apps
- More accessibility power management app
- Advanced calling via SIP
- NFC (Near Field Communication) support
- New download manager
- Access to front-facing camera from camera app
- API support for sensors including gyroscope, gravity, and barometer
- Support for VP8/WebM video compression

And the good news is that the Gingerbread has already started our shores via the HTC Desire S!

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SMART puts the latest Android smartphones in your hands

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- Stay informed with RSS feeds and business apps from the Android Market

It's time you picked a SMART way to communicate. Get a smartphone from SMART.

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SO THAT THE LEGAL EAGLES AND THOSE INTERESTED MAY KNOW THE LATEST EPISODE (HOPEFULLY, THE LAST) IN THE FIGHT OF THE SIXTEEN (16) CITIES TO HAVE THE WILL OF CONGRESS AND THE SOVEREIGN MANDATE OF THEIR VOTERS UPHELD AGAINST THE ONSLAUGHT OF THE LEAGUE OF CITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES -

We are publishing the "Motion To Resolve The LCP's '*Ad Cautelam* Motion for Reconsideration (of the Decision dated 15 February 2011)' with Comment on the Motion" dated March 22, 2011 of the Sixteen (16) Cities:

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
SUPREME COURT
[illegible]

[illegible]

LEAGUE OF CITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES [illegible]

-versus-

COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS, [illegible]

[illegible]

G.R. Nos. 176951, 177499 and 178056

MOTION TO RESOLVE THE LCP's "*AD CAUTELAM* MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION (of the Decision dated 15 February 2011)" with COMMENT ON THE MOTION

COME NOW respondents MUNICIPALITY OF BALIWAG, ET AL., [illegible] respectfully unto this Honorable Court:

I. THE SIXTEEN (16) CITIES WERE NOT CREATED BY THE SUPREME COURT. THEY WERE CREATED BY CONGRESS.

1. On March 9, 2011, officers and members of the League of Cities of the Philippines, at its meeting in the Supreme Court and filed an "*Ad Cautelam* Motion for Reconsideration (of the Decision dated 15 February 2011)" dated March 4, 2011.

2. They have marched to the wrong place. They should have marched, and rallied instead, in the Congress. They have contended that –

> **The Sixteen (16) Cities were not created by the Supreme Court. They were created by CONGRESS.**

3. Congress passed the bills creating the Sixteen (16) Cities with the following votes:

City	Cityhood Law	Yes	Abst.	Absent	No Entry	Against	Abstain
Baliwag	R.A. No. 9389 (H.B. No. 3972)	191	0	1	10	0	0
Bogo	R.A. No. 9388 (H.B. No. 3967)	191	0	1	10	0	0
Cabadbaran	R.A. No. 9392 (H.B. No. 3946)	192	0	1	9	0	0
Tandag	R.A. No. 9393 (H.B. No. 3949)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Lamitan	R.A. No. 9395 (H.B. No. 4081)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Borongan	R.A. No. 9394 (H.B. No. 3969)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Tacurban	R.A. No. 9390 (H.B. No. 3968)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Tabaco	R.A. No. 9391 (H.B. No. 3970)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Bayugan	R.A. No. 9405 (H.B. No. 4981)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Bislig	R.A. No. 9407 (H.B. No. 4980)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Surigao	R.A. No. 9408 (H.B. No. 3977)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Cotabato	R.A. No. 9406 (H.B. No. 4038)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Koronadal	R.A. No. 9404 (H.B. No. 3983)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Kidapawan	R.A. No. 9403 (H.B. No. 4082)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Tagum	R.A. No. 9409 (H.B. No. 4082)	193	0	1	8	0	0

and ratified by votes of the senate municipalities with the following votes:

City	Cityhood Law	Affirmative votes received	Affirmative votes needed	Negative votes received
Baliwag	R.A. No. 9389 (H.B. No. 3972)	33,108	23,425	1,614
Bogo	R.A. No. 9388 (H.B. No. 3967)	24,860	23,939	482
Cabadbaran	R.A. No. 9392 (H.B. No. 3946)	26,563	25,810	1,359
Tandag	R.A. No. 9393 (H.B. No. 3949)	13,457	12,165	938
Lamitan	R.A. No. 9395 (H.B. No. 4081)	24,811	16,636	177
Borongan	R.A. No. 9394 (H.B. No. 3969)	13,650	12,171	1,486
Tacurban	R.A. No. 9390 (H.B. No. 3938)	9,792	8,820	564
Tabaco	R.A. No. 9408 (H.B. No. 4005)	33,171	27,980	1,171
Bayugan	R.A. No. 9405 (H.B. No. 4981)	19,868	15,907	1,128
Bislig	R.A. No. 9407 (H.B. No. 4980)	15,139	11,370	1,453
Surigao	R.A. No. 9408 (H.B. No. 3977)	33,138	26,837	986
Cotabato	R.A. No. 9406 (H.B. No. 4038)	13,126	12,220	627
Koronadal	R.A. No. 9404 (H.B. No. 3983)	13,511	12,013	726
Kidapawan	R.A. No. 9403 (H.B. No. 4082)	7,749	6,688	697
Tagum	R.A. No. 9409 (H.B. No. 4082)	33,881	31,699	1,758
Bogo	R.A. No. 9395 (H.B. No. 4081)	14,637	12,820	798

4. The representatives of the League of Cities in the House of Representatives, numbering 229 at the time, voted in favor of the bills creating the Sixteen (16) Cities. **Not a single negative vote against the conversion of the Sixteen (16) municipalities into cities was cast. The voting was unanimous.**

5. Section 2, Rule 45 of the Rules of Court requires that a verified petition may only be resorted to if "there is no appeal or any other plain, speedy and adequate remedy in the ordinary course of law is available" – the remedy lies with the Congress, not with the Supreme Court.

6. THE DECISION OF NOVEMBER 18, 2008 DID NOT ATTAIN FINALITY; THE SUPREME COURT HAD JURISDICTION TO PROMULGATE ITS RESOLUTION OF FEBRUARY 15, 2011

6. The League of Cities' "*Ad Cautelam* Motion for Reconsideration..." is based on the assumption that the "Decision" of November 18, 2008 had become final; hence, the Supreme Court had no jurisdiction to promulgate its Resolution of February 15, 2011. The assumption is erroneous. The "Decision" of November 18, 2008 had never attained finality.

7. The following facts undoubtedly establish that the "Decision" of November 18, 2008 never attained finality:

The November 18, 2008 Decision –

8. On November 18, 2008, the Supreme Court promulgated a "Decision" which declared the Sixteen (16) Cityhood Laws (Laguna Republic Act No. 9388, 9389, 9390, 9391, 9392, 9393, 9394, 9395, 9403, 9404, 9405, 9406, 9407, 9408, 9409 and 9491) unconstitutional.

Motion for Reconsideration of the November 18, 2008 Decision –

9. On December 15, 2008, the Sixteen (16) Cities filed, within fifteen (15) days from receipt of a copy of the "Decision", a "Motion for Reconsideration" dated December 4, 2008 praying that the Court reconsider its "Decision" of November 18, 2008 and instead dismiss the petitions for prohibition.

Resolution of March 11, 2009 Denying the Motion for Reconsideration –

10. In a "Resolution" dated March 11, 2009, the Supreme Court denied the "Motion for Reconsideration" of the Sixteen (16) Cities. A copy of the "Resolution" was received by the respondent Sixteen (16) Cities on April 7, 2009.

City	Cityhood Law	Yes	Abst.	Absent	No Entry	Against	Abstain
Baliwag	R.A. No. 9389 (H.B. No. 3972)	191	0	1	10	0	0
Bogo	R.A. No. 9388 (H.B. No. 3967)	191	0	1	10	0	0
Cabadbaran	R.A. No. 9392 (H.B. No. 3946)	192	0	1	9	0	0
Tandag	R.A. No. 9393 (H.B. No. 3949)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Lamitan	R.A. No. 9395 (H.B. No. 4081)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Borongan	R.A. No. 9394 (H.B. No. 3969)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Tacurban	R.A. No. 9390 (H.B. No. 3968)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Tabaco	R.A. No. 9391 (H.B. No. 3970)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Bayugan	R.A. No. 9405 (H.B. No. 4981)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Bislig	R.A. No. 9407 (H.B. No. 4980)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Surigao	R.A. No. 9408 (H.B. No. 3977)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Cotabato	R.A. No. 9406 (H.B. No. 4038)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Koronadal	R.A. No. 9404 (H.B. No. 3983)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Kidapawan	R.A. No. 9403 (H.B. No. 4082)	193	0	1	8	0	0
Tagum	R.A. No. 9409 (H.B. No. 4082)	193	0	1	8	0	0

a Timely Second Motion for Reconsideration of the Decision of November 18, 2008 — Allowed and Granted –

11. On April 14, 2009, the very next day after receipt of a copy of the "Resolution" of March 11, 2009, the Sixteen (16) Cities filed a "Motion For Reconsideration Of The Resolution (Of March 11, 2009 And Motion For Leave To File And To Admit Attached Second Motion For Reconsideration Of the Decision Dated November 18, 2008" of even date.

Motion For Reconsideration of "The Resolution" Dated March 11, 2009", asking that a decision be rendered on the merits, to wit: Opinion of Justice Frederico J. Velasco, Jr. concurred in by Justices Leonardo Quisumbing, Renato C. Corona, Minita Chico-Nazario, Arturo D. Brion and Jose C. Mendoza, "[w]ould command the Court to, and thereby resolve the motion on the merits, **also mentioned matters of respondents' Sixteen (16) Cities' main contention, and for the motion to be delivered upon again, until "the concurrence of a majority" is reached so as to finally resolve the Sixteen (16) Cityhood Laws are unconstitutional.**"

(4 pp. 12-13);

14. The motion was based on Section 6(1) and (3), Article VIII of the Constitution which particularly provide as follows:

> Section 6. (1) **The Supreme Court shall be composed of a Chief Justice and fourteen Associate Justices.** If any vacancy shall occur in the affirmative vote of at least eight members. Any vacancy shall be filled within ninety days from the occurrence thereof.
>
> (3) **All cases involving the constitutionality** of a treaty, international or executive agreement, or **law, which shall be heard by the Supreme Court en banc** and no doctrine, principle, or rule laid down by the Court in any decision rendered en banc or in division may be modified or reversed except by the Court sitting en banc and **which shall be decided with the concurrence of a majority of the Members who actually took part in the deliberations on the issues in the case and voted thereon.**"

and drew attention to the opinion of then Chief Justice Reynato S. Puno in the separate opinion to the case of Lambino vs. COMELEC (G.R. which he opined that a determination of unconstitutionality by an equally divided vote, or a tactical but unconscionable, abstention from voting on a valid proposition is

> **It ought to be beyond debate that the six (6) justices who voted that R.A. 9716 is an insufficient law failed to establish a doctrine that could serve as a precedent. Under any alchemy of law, a deadlocked vote of six (6) is not a majority and a non-majority cannot write a rule with precedential value.**" The opinion of the late Justice Ricardo J. Francisco is instructive, to

> In my mind, if the human instinct tells each judge in the deliberations on the issue of whether the petitioner is entitled to the reliefs prayed for in the March 31, 1987 decision should be granted or not, only the following justices, Cruz and Mr. Justice Bellosillo, namely, Chief Justice Narvasa, and Justices Melencio-Herrera, Padilla, Sarmiento and Regalado, Gutierrez, Paras, Feliciano, Bidin, Cortes, Griño-Aquino, Medialdea, Romero, Nocon, Bautista, Gancayco, Padilla, and the undersigned voted to grant the motion, while Justice Yap, maintained his opinion that the case is now moot and academic because of the supervening event, namely, the ratification by the majority of the votes cast in the plebiscite held on February 2, 1987, pursuant to Proclamation No. 58 dated December 17, 1986 which submitted to the people for ratification the Constitution drafted by the Constitutional Commission of 1986. Justice Melencio-Herrera, in her separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the aforesaid case of Manalang vs. Quitoriano, 77 Phil. 1, 5 (1946) is not applicable to the case at bar, because the Court's decision in the Manalang case was rendered by the Court sitting en banc, whereas the decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Padilla, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Sarmiento, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Cortes, in her separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Griño-Aquino, in her separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Medialdea, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Romero, in her separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Nocon, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Bautista, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Gancayco, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Padilla, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Sarmiento, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Cortes, in her separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Griño-Aquino, in her separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Medialdea, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Romero, in her separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Nocon, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Bautista, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division. Justice Gancayco, in his separate opinion, also voted to grant the motion for the reason that the Court's decision in the present case was rendered by the Court sitting in division.

All this aside, the Court deems it proper to clarify the 29 April 2009 Resolution.

In a sense, a second motion for reconsideration is a prohibited pleading pursuant to Section 2, Rule 52 of the Rules of Civil Procedure which provides that "No second motion for reconsideration of a judgment or final resolution by the same party shall be entertained." There is an exception but it is the denial of the first motion for reconsideration.

Moreover, when a motion for leave to file and submit a second motion for reconsideration is granted by the Court, the Court therefore utilizes the filing of the second motion for reconsideration to such a time the second motion for reconsideration is envisaged a prohibited pleading.

In the present case, the Court voted on the second motion for reconsideration filed by respondent-Cities. In effect, the Court allowed the filing of the second motion for reconsideration. Thus, the second motion for reconsideration was no longer a prohibited pleading. Nonetheless, for lack of the required number of votes to overturn the 18 November 2008 Decision and 15 March 2009 Resolution, the Court denied the second motion for reconsideration in its 28 April 2009 Resolution.

On May 5, 2009, respondents' counsel received Leave of the 30 April 2009 Resolution.

After the lapse of fifteen (15) days from 5 May 2009, or the date of receipt by respondents' counsel of the 30 April 2009 Resolution denying the second motion for reconsideration, the Supreme Clerk of Court and Clerk of the Judicial Records Office issued Entry of Judgment on 19 May 2009 because he became final and executory on 12 May 2009 and was recorded in the Book of Entries of Judgments on the same date.

Currently, a decision becomes final when: (1) no motion or appeal by the parties of the denial of the decision or motion for reconsideration. **However, there are instances when a judgment does not automatically become final and executory after 15 days from receipt of the denial of the first motion for reconsideration, such as**" (1) when a motion for leave to file and admit a second motion for reconsideration is granted by the Court; (2) when a second motion for reconsideration is granted by the Court, or (3) when a second motion for reconsideration is considered and denied by the Court on the merits, such as in this case (4 pp. 7-8;4)

effectively superseding its "Resolution" of April 28, 2009 which "denied for being a prohibited pleading" the "Second Motion for Reconsideration..." of the Sixteen (16) Cities.

The "Decision" of November 27, 2009 GRANTING THE RELIEF(S) REQUESTED IN RECONSIDERATION, and Declaring Cityhood Laws Constitutional –

in the December 11, 2009 ("the Supreme Court granted the Motion for Reconsideration" of the November 18, 2008 "Decision") and "Motion for Reconsideration" of the Sixteen (16) Cities' "Second Motion for Reconsideration" of the November 18, 2008 "Decision" (4 pp. 8-9; 4) with the "Resolution" of March 31, 2009 and then granted **Motion for Reconsideration of the Decision dated November 18, 2008 are GRANTED.**" The June 2, 2009, the March 31, 2009, and April 21, 2009 Resolutions are **REVERSED** and **SET ASIDE**. The entry of judgment made on June 12, 2009 **WAS** accordingly **be RECALLED**.

The instant consolidated petitions and petitions-in-intervention are **DISMISSED**. The Cityhood laws, namely Republic Act Nos. 9389, 9390, 9391, 9392, 9393, 9394, 9395, 9403, 9404, 9405, 9406, 9407, 9408, 9409 and 9491, are declared **VALID** and **CONSTITUTIONAL**.

SO ORDERED.

(4 p. 10)

17. It is consequently indefensible that creditors in the connection of the League of Cities of the Philippines, et al., the November 18, 2008 "Decision" never attained finality. The "Second Motion for Reconsideration..." of the November 18, 2008 "Decision" filed by respondent Sixteen (16) Cities pleaded that the Supreme Court, and effect set aside "*sua sponte*" Section 2, Rule 52 of the Rules of Civil Procedure, which "Second Motion for Reconsideration of a judgment or final resolution by the same party shall be entertained." There is no time between final and conclusive after 15 days have passed the denial of the first motion for reconsideration.

LCP's Motion for Reconsideration of the Decision of December 21, 2009 QUOTED and As Cityhood Laws Declared Unconstitutional –

18. On August 24, 2010, ruling on an "*Ad Cautelam* Motion for Reconsideration" dated January 4, 2005 filed by the League of Cities, the Court issued a "Decision"[1] reversing its "Decision" of November 18, 2008 and declaring the Cityhood Laws unconstitutional.

Resolution of February 15, 2011 Grants "Motion for Reconsideration of the 'Resolution' dated August 24, 2010" and Declares 16 Cityhood Laws Constitutional.

19. Finally, on February 15, 2011, acting on a "Motion for Reconsideration of the Resolution" dated August 24, 2010" filed by the Sixteen (16) Cities, the Court issued its latest "Resolution/Decision"[2] reversing, as follows:

> **WHEREFORE,** the Motion for Reconsideration of the "Resolution" dated August 24, 2010, dated and filed on September 14, 2010 by respondents Municipality of Baliwag, et al. is **GRANTED**. The Resolution dated August 24, 2010 is **REVERSED** and **SET ASIDE.**
>
> The Cityhood Laws—Republic Act Nos. 9389, 9390, 9391, 9392, 9393, 9394, 9395, 9403, 9404, 9405, 9406, 9407, 9408, 9409 and 9491—are declared **CONSTITUTIONAL.**
>
> **SO ORDERED.**

20. On the basis of the above, it is clear, firmly, that the Supreme Court allowed the filing of the Second Motion for Reconsideration of the Sixteen (16) Cities which sought the reconsideration of the November 18, 2008 Decision of the Supreme Court and, accordingly, acting on the Second Motion for Reconsideration, the Cityhood Laws were declared valid and constitutional, superseding the Decision of December 18, 2008. And, finally, the Decision of August 24, 2010 of the Supreme Court rescinding the Decision of November 18, 2008 is now "**REVERSED AND SET ASIDE**" by the Resolution of February 15, 2011, which now declares as follows:

> WHEREFORE, it is respectfully prayed that the Honorable Court:
>
> a. deny petitioner League of Cities of the Philippines' "*Ad Cautelam* Motion for Reconsideration (of the Decision dated 15 February 2011)" dated March 4, 2011 for lack of merit; and
>
> b. declare its "Resolution" of February 15, 2011 as immediately final and executory.
>
> Other reliefs just and equitable under the premises are likewise prayed for.
>
> Makati City for the City of Manila, March 22, 2011

ESTELITO P. MENDOZA & ASSOCIATES

'Vote for underground river as world wonder'

THE DAILY GOSPEL

APRIL 10 (Sunday)
Psalter Week 1
5th Sunday of Lent
Is 1:10-17; 2:3-6, 9-6, 7-8
Pitch dot Lord deeper in sorrow and full sens of redemption.

1st Reading: Isa 65:17-18, 24

This is what Yahweh says, "I am going to open your tombs, I shall bring you out of your tombs, my people, and lead you back to the land of Israel. You will know then I am Yahweh, O my people: when I open your graves and bring you out of your graves, when I put my spirit in you and you live, I shall settle you on your land and you will know that I, Yahweh, have done what I said I would do."

Responsorial: Psalm 6:6-7, 9

Be merciful and sinner, from waking to sleeping to the first sunset please God.

Yet your endeavour is not in the flesh, but in the spirit, because the Spirit of God is within you. If you did not have the Spirit of Christ in you would not belong to him. But Christ is within you. Because of sin your body is bounded by death as a consequence of sin, the spirit is life and holiness. And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is within you, He who raised Jesus Christ from among the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies. He, he will do it through his Spirit who dwells within you.

Gospel Jn 1:1-1:45 (Jn Jn 11:1-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45)

... Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." On hearing this Jesus said, "This illness will not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory and the Son of God will be glorified through it."

It is a fact that Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus; yet, after he heard of the illness of Lazarus, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Only then did he say to his disciples, "Let us go into Judea again." They replied, "Master, recently the Jews wanted to stone you. Are you going there again?" Jesus said to them, "Are not the 12 working days provided to complete a day? Those who walk in the daytime shall not stumble, for they see the light of this world. But those who walk in night stumble, for there is no light in them."

After this Jesus said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going to wake him." The disciples replied, "Lord, a sick person often sleeps well overnight." But he was had referred to Lazarus' death, while they thought that he had meant the repose of sleep. So Jesus said plainly, "Lazarus is dead and for your sake I am glad I was not there, for now you may believe. But let us go there, where he is." Then Thomas called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go that we may die with him."

When Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days. As Bethany is near Jerusalem, about two miles away, many Jews had come to console Martha and Mary to offer consolation in their brother's death.

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him while Mary remained sitting in the house. And she said to Jesus, "If you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said, "Your brother will rise again."

Martha replied, "I know that he will rise in the resurrection, at the last day." But Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection; whoever believes in me, though he die, shall live. Whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" Martha then answered, "Yes, Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world."

As for Mary, when she heard... fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ... Then he asked, "Where have you laid him?" They answered, "Lord, come and see." And Jesus wept. The Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "If he could open the eyes of the blind man, could he not have kept this man from dying?"

Jesus was deeply moved again and drew near to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across it. Jesus ordered, "Take the stone away." Martha said to him, "Lord, by now he will smell, for he is the fourth day." Jesus replied, "Have I not told you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" So they removed the stone. Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you for you have heard me. I knew that you have me always; but my prayer was for the sake of those people, that they may believe that you sent me." When Jesus had said this, he cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips and his face wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

Reflection:
Lectio
- Whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?

Meditatio
- God is full He has to believe and die in God in order to truly live.

Oratio
- Let us pray that the Spirit will enable us the passion to live with God and for God.

Actio
- Ask your participation at the new life in the risen Christ. Let us try to live today look forward to that great event.

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DALAWAN needs your vote now. If you believe Puerto Princesa's Underground River deserves a place in the list of the world's greatest nature spots, text "PPUR 15" to 2861 before Sept. 25, Vice President Jejomar Binay has urged the public.

Binay called on Filipinos to vote for the underground river as it vies with, among others, the Amazon rainforest, the Great Barrier Reef and the Grand Canyon, in an internet search for the World's New Seven Wonders of Nature.

"Please encourage your relatives, friends and every concerned Filipino to vote," Binay said in a statement.

"This is also in support of the Aquino administration's effort to put the Philippines on the map and bring attention to our beautiful country," he added.

The Puerto Princesa Underground River is one of 28 finalists competing for the New Seven Wonders of Nature to be determined by voters around the world.

Other finalists include the Great Barrier Reef, the Galapagos Islands, Mount Kilimanjaro, Jeju Island and Mount Nanovius.

As of Saturday, the underground river was in the top half of the finalist list, but the actual ranking was not clear on the website.

To vote, Globe, Smart or Sun subscribers may text "PPUR 15" to 2861. The public may vote as many times as they want until Sept. 20.

The official announcement of the new Seven Wonders of Nature will be made on Nov. 11, which is also Binay's birthday.

"This is the perfect opportunity to highlight the beauty of our country and encourage the influx of tourists," Binay said.

DJ Yap

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Bruno Mars: Filipino and proud to be so

BRUNO Mars rocks the full house on Friday. PHOTO BY MICHAEL CONCEPCION

By Pocholo Concepcion
Inquirer Entertainment

BRUNO Mars drove more than 10,000 people crazy with a spellbinding performance Friday night at the Araneta Coliseum.

The Grammy award-winning singer and songwriter brought the house down when he proclaimed toward the end of his sound-ing room-only concert: "I am Filipino."

Born Peter Gene Hernandez in Hawaii to a Puerto Rican father and Filipino mother, Mars pointed to his Pinoy clan, including his grandparents and his mom Bernadette, that was watching with the crowd.

On Thursday night, his relatives also joined him at the MetroEvent Cebu Hotel where he opened his two-night concert tour, handcrafted by actor-entertainer Star-ito Agasta and partners.

At the Big Dome, where 800 tickets were sold to accommodate demand from fans, the 25-year-old Mars presented a show that drew equal his deep love for classic rock 'n' roll. Even before the show started, the house music played the audience with a selection of hits by Elvis Presley, the Temptations, among others.

Striking onstage and momentarily hanging on the drums to warm up, Mars settled down behind an electric guitar, accompanied by a five-piece band composed of Afro-American and Asians. He set the passionate and lyrical tone of the concert with his opening number, "The Other Side," a track from his debut album "Doo-Wops and Hooligans."

Throughout the show he laid bare his R&B, soul and reggae influences. On the third song, he launched into a raging version of Barrett Strong's 1959 hit "Money (That's What I Want)"—famously covered by The Beatles—as an intro to "Billionaire," the breakbeat hit by Travie McCoy which Mars co-wrote and produced.

"Can we slow down?" he asked the crowd before playing his own tune, "Our First Time," channeling Michael Jackson but more ornate in tone—the song's raging hormones theme tempered by mood reggae beat.

Mars followed this up with a homage to Jackson's R-rated version of "Billie Jean."

The crowd went nuts when he broke into his next song, "Marry You," an original track all "Doo-Wops and Hooligans," electronically memorable for its driving rhythm and happy-wedding bells background.

But not everything was bright and comforting in Mars' songs. "Liquor Store Blues," arranged in engaging dancehall-reggae style, was dark and gloomy, the lyrics bristling with drunk desolation: "One shot for my pain..."

Mear pandemonium

There was near pandemonium when Mars pounded with "Nothin' on You," another worldwide hit (No. 1 in the United States, United Kingdom and the Netherlands) available on-screen and produced with hip-hop artist B.o.B.

The siren tune, "Grenade," was his personal favorite, he told the audience. Like "Liquor Store Blues," it was not a happy-song in any sense—dripping with frustration: "I would die for you, but you aren't do the same."

Mars was accompanied his own bo. 1, hit, "Just the Way You Are," the audience taking over the song's chorus.

But his encore, for song "Runaway Baby," in which Mars lent credence to his allusive and tour title "Doo-Wops." His funny footwork elicited much applause.

The concert, which lasted an hour and a half, also displayed Mars' guitar-playing skills. On "Grenade" his axe sealed with blasts of hard rock. But on "Count on Me" he switched to a ukulele, evoking laid-back beach scenes not unlike to Hawaii, where he grew up.

He said it was his first time in the Philippines, when his mother was born, he vowed to come back, overwhelmed by the crowd's cheers. "I went to see the same faces when I return, OK?"

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Church beams to the faithful from cyberspace

FILIPINO Catholics hoping for a rejuvenating Holy Week even while on holiday may turn to their mobile phones and PCs for spiritual inspiration, including messages from Pope Benedict XVI.

The Vatican is engaging the tech-savvy generation of Catholics worldwide by going online Full Blast, setting up its own Twitter, Facebook and YouTube accounts.

On home grounds, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) has again opened its Tech Iglesia website (www.ejesiglesia.net), encouraged by the eschatastic response last year.

The faithful may go on a virtual pilgrimage to various churches by viewing videos on the website and listening to messages for reflection by priests given at each place of worship.

"For a global organization like the Catholic Church, embracing social media is a logical move. Social networking and microblogging sites like Facebook and Twitter are quick and effective channels for them to communicate their message on a global scale," Ramon Isberto, public affairs head of Smart Communications Inc., said in a statement.

Strategic move

"It's a strategic move because people no longer just access the Web through their computer terminals. They carry the Internet wherever they go through mobile devices like networked tablets and mobile phones," he said.

For the traditional users, Smart still has religious content that subscribers can get through text messaging.

The Philippines, where Facebook is the most popular website, is one of the biggest audiences for the Vatican's online initiatives.

The Vatican launched its Twitter account late last year, with the handle @news_va, as its Twitter feed shows the Pope's official messages in the religious, his words on the Catholic faith and his statements on world affairs.

Last month, the Vatican set up an official Facebook page for the late Pope John Paul II (www.facebook.com/vaticanjohnpaul2).

'Liking' John Paul

John Paul "likes" may view his messages and pilgrimages through videos on YouTube (www.youtube.com/user/saintpaulofficial), in line with the countdown to his beatification next month.

The Iesia Iglesia website is a Lenten presentation of the CBCP Media Office. It is ostensibly designed for the inform and edified as well as Filipinos overseas.

The website now features 14 different shrines and pilgrimage sites and venerable videos and text references on other Holy Week traditions like the Seven Last Words and the "Siapao."

Websites like this and other innovations brought about by broadband and mobile communication technologies have provided the faithful more ways to receive the Word of God and practice their beliefs.

Smartphones have facilitated the emergence of religious applications or apps which enable mobile phone users to carry all the books of the Bible in their pockets.

And Smart still offers daily Bible verse and prayer services, like "Dear God" and "Send-Iloilo," as well as religious quotes and mantras from inspirational speaker Bo Sanchez.

Go for green, and gold, in Palaro–Luistro

By Tara Quintanilla

COMPETE, but think green.

More than just going for the gold, student athletes should go for the green in the upcoming Palarong Pambansa, according to Education Secretary Armin Luistro said.

Luistro said they are expected 10,000 athletes and coaches who will gather in host Dagupan City next month to do their share in reducing the waste during the games.

Heaps of plastic, styrofoam and other trash usually pile up and litter the sports venue every year.

"We would like this Palaro to contribution to be a green Palarong Pambansa. We hope the participants would show discipline by not bringing plastic or styrofoam," Luistro told a recent press conference.

Show discipline

"Then should go for a green medal. And symbolizes their love for God's blessing. It is important that the children show discipline rather than just show that, here, I own a gold medal," said the Department of Education official.

The nationalized games is expected to draw 10,000 athletes from schools in 17 regions across the country to Da pitan City from May 8 to 14.

The students will compete in the 27 sporting events, including ball games, indoor games, track and field, and combat sports.

The DepEd is planning to finished sporting events to venue and players that prove to be environment-friendly.

"We are thinking of including special events that reflect the environment," said Luistro.

Not required

But he said he would not make the green mindset a requirement as he hoped to see the students take the initiative from bringing their own reusable lunch packs, spoons and forks to throwing garbage in segregated bins.

"It's not just about how we plant but how we prepare the place, we want to show the resources given to," he said.

Luistro, who recently inspected the Dambanang del Norte venues, said he tried to coordinated with local officials on the proper handling of the garbage to be left at the sporting venues and how to install disposable waste protection and sanitation.

"We met with officials of the host city and we were trying to bring this to their attention,— how the participate could be encouraged, crowds discipline... We are looking at aspects of sports other than winning," Luistro said.

Aside from physical cleanliness, Luistro also vowed to eliminate cheating and corruption in the games through strict screening of participants, more stringent guidelines for delegation members and better monitoring of fund disbursements.

The year's games will cost around P126 million, said DepEd Assistant Secretary Tonette Enoki.

Teachers must cross a sea to get their pay

PETER NG refuse find to comply, more than 100 teachers on Siburan Island, Romblon, yesterday made the long trip to the province's mainland, chipping in the P90,000 boat round, to enroll in the Department of Education's (DepEd) automated payroll system.

Maximo Romero, principal at Don Carlos Mejia Memorial High School, the first Fernando town on the island, answered the teachers' appeal for any government worker bank to install its automated teller machine (ATM) on Siburan.

This would spare the teachers the from risks and the expense of having to cross the lalayan to Looc to get their wages — a trip that in good weather takes at least six hours one way.

"We are asking the DepEd to please facilitate the installation of an ATM to our locations," Romero told the Inquirer yesterday.

He corresponded with the Inquirer via text while on the long sea trip to Odiongan town on Tablas Island, where the LBP branches had arranged to go to the local Landbank branch on a weekend to open ATM accounts to receive their salaries. An earlier batch of teachers had left Siburan on Friday for Tablas, Romero said.

Special boat trips

As the regular trip from San Fernando to Odiongan usually takes several rides by land and sea, the teachers arranged for special direct boat trips, making two hours for about P550 per passenger to cover the P90,000 fee for both boats.

The regular route, which includes long jeepney and boat rides, costs at least P1,000 both ways, said former San Fernando Mayor Ramiro Tansingco.

The DepEd And long been pushing to eliminate its payroll system using ATMs to pay the wages of 800,000 employees nationwide. This saves the government the cost of printing and sending out paychecks of P6 a piece.

Regional finance officers for Region IVB (Mimaropa) have explained that consideration with DepEd personnel on Siburan had been held and they promised to facilitate the installation of an ATM on the island.

"The DepEd can save P6 per employee every month, but an ordinary teacher has to spend hundreds just to get their salary," said Romero.

Tansingco said Siburan residents had long been appealing for a government banks to establish a presence on the island. Barangay chairmen de

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Assistant Editor Tony Benjamin

Across the NATION

Alert level raised for Taal Volcano

By Lelo B. Salaverria

TAAL VOLCANO is getting restive and an eruption, while not imminent, is a possibility, the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) warned yesterday.

The Phivolcs raised the alert status at Taal Volcano to Level 2 from Level 1. Following an increase in volcanic earthquakes, surface deaths consistent and evidences of steam. Level 2 is described as "alarming" and to denote rise of magma to the surface, which could eventually lead to an eruption.

"With this alert status, the persons and civilian could eventually lead to an eruption," the Phivolcs said in its bulletin a week yesterday.

Level 3 is the highest alert level, and means that an eruption is in progress. Alert Level 4 means an eruption is imminent, and would take place in a few days. Under Alert Level 1, eruption is possible within days or weeks if unrest continues.

The Phivolcs said that since magma is rising in the volcano, people should stay away from the main crater, the Daang Kastila Trail and Mt. Tabaro, the site of the 1965 eruption at the volcano island.

Sudden, hazardous steam-driven explosions could take place and toxic gases could fill the air, posing dangers on all living things in the area.

"Breathing air with high concentration of gases can be lethal to humans, animals and even cause damage to vegetation," said the Phivolcs.

It further reminded the public that the entire volcano island is considered a permanent danger zone.

Taal Volcano and its lake are a popular tourist destination, with visitors trooping to the area to gaze at what is known as the world's smallest active volcano.

According to the Phivolcs, the number of volcanic earthquakes it had detected since Friday had increased, and they were becoming shallower.

A total of 21 seismic earthquakes had been recorded. Two of the earthquakes were perceptible and were felt at intensities 2 to 3. One was accompanied by a rumbling sound.

Carbon dioxide emissions from the Taal main crater lake was 4,670 tons per day in the last week of March.

IN THE NICK OF TIME
A couple is evacuated on a wayward public utility jeep based for Cebu finds its way into their makeshift store and stops just right after hitting tree trunks that supported a plastic roof on the couple's store in Barangay Tejero, Cebu City.

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MANILA MAKATI QUEZON CITY CAVITE

NBI finds 'jueteng' tough nut to crack in Pangasinan

DAGUPAN CITY—The National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) has stepped in to help the police stop the resurgence of the illegal numbers racket "jueteng" in Pangasinan but the NBI insists (also) with the job are finding it difficult to arrest people behind the operations due to advanced information given to them about government raids.

"Some from the NBI Manila are having a difficult time. Malapit ang mata, either sa 'no' nagsabi. Jueteng was long-nasi inilaan sa ang mga jueteng personnel Nilalo the team is on its way jueteng personnel already know about the raid. They are informed about government operations with just one-text message," said Senior Supt. Romeo Hapgilo Manuang, chief of the NBI in Dagupan City.

The NBI, he said, is monitoring the resurgence of jueteng operations in various provinces, including Pangasinan, on the request of Office of the League of Provinces of the Philippines.

He said the NBI helps in monitoring illegal gambling in Pangasinan, where jueteng "reaps and then revenges, then stops."

But keeping tourist-jueteng free should be the concern of the local police, said Manuang. He said the NBI teams coordinate their operations with the police officials.

"Their illegal gambling operations are not our only concern. We have more pressing matters on our hand. Remember that these operations are dangerous and expensive and our budget is not enough, so we have to comply with the directive," he said.

Senior Supt. Romeo B. Salvador, Pangasinan police director, said the recent raids conducted by the NBI seemed only jueteng bet collectors.

"We also do not know the bet collectors are bringing the money. We do not want to speculate," he said.

"It is these guerrilla operations that the different agencies are going after," he said.

The NBI said the Tumas was one of the areas raided by the NBI agents, but police there denied the existence of jueteng. Inquirer Northern Luzon

Another Singson running in Ilocos Sur special polls

RONALD SINGSON

TIGAO CITY—A son of Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson has been fielded by the local party to run for the first congressional district seat that was left vacant after the resignation of Singson's other son, Ronald, who was convicted of drug trafficking in Hong Kong.

Vigan City Vice Mayor Ryan Singson, Ronald's younger brother, would face either Samuel Beard Wenceslao Eleen Zaldarian or lawyer Bellran Balerina in the May 20 special elections. Zaldarian lost to the elder Singson in the gubernatorial race last year, while Balerina lost to Ronald in the congressional contest.

"I was really surprised when I was ordered [by the party to run for representative] but I am very grateful for it," Ryan, 30, told the Inquirer.

Top Ilibig leaders and rangers allied with Governor Singson held a caucus on Thursday night and chose Ryan among seven aspirants to run for the vacant post.

Balinsasa said the opposition in Ilocos Sur is ready to offer an alternative to the Singsons, saying his group would give them a good fight.

"Our campaign will be ready. The people [of Ilocos Sur] can continue to cheer for [change]," Balinsasa said.

Governor Singson and Balinsasa used to be political allies but they parted ways when they lasted each other in the gubernatorial race in 2001. Singson won that race.

Marino Salas, provincial election supervisor and the Commission on Elections (Comelec) is prepared for the special elections.

He said election officers in the 10 towns and Vigan City that comprise Ilocos Sur's first congressional district have started preparing all paraphernalia for the special elections.

Acencio Baclao Jr., Inquirer Northern Luzon

ARMM execs launch plan to combat corruption

NEWSBRIEFS

■ BAGUIO CITY

'No takers' for 'RMW of power'

THE NORTHERN Negros Geothermal Power Plant of the Energy Development Corp. (EDC) here has been producing "inexhaustible" power, but there have been no "takers," according to officials of the power firm.

"We send it to the Visayas grid but I think it still has no takers," said Noel Salonga, EDC assistant vice president for resource management.

The geothermal plant was initially envisioned to produce 40 megawatts. In a disclosure at the Philippine Stock Exchange, EDC said it completed studies on 61 percent of geophysical stations at the Biodiesel Negros area at the end of March. *Carlos P. Conrad, Inquirer Visayas*

■ CABANATUAN CITY

Cop in hot water for beating

AN ANTI-ILLEGAL AGENCY official of the regional police is under fire for allegedly beating up a government employee who tried to seize suspected illegal lumber from his son's yard on Thursday.

Arnold Bautista, an employee of the environment-and-natural-resources office in Dolores, said SPO4 Napoleon Fulgencio punched him twice in the stomach and kicked him.

Fulgencio, who declined to issue any statement, is assigned to the Central Luzon regional intelligence office and detailed to Bamban town. Bautista said he was in the area to help Dolores Assistant Municipal Agriculture Officer Joselito Alfonso seize 250 board feet of lumber at the yard of Fulgencio's son, Alvin, in Barangay Diaring Bata.

Fulgencio allegedly attacked Bautista when Department of Environment and Natural Resources officials insisted on seizing the lumber. *Armand Galang, Inquirer Central Luzon*

■ CAMARINES SUR

Ex-village chief executed

A FORMER village chieftain was executed Thursday by suspected rebels as head of his family in a remote village in Presentacion, Camarines Sur, according to an Army spokesperson on Friday.

Maj. Angelie Guzman, public information officer of the Army's 9th Infantry Division, said Rolando Bacho, 64, was shot dead inside the victim's house in the Isla Rangas village of Tibiao in Presentacion at 6 a.m. on Thursday.

Bacho's son Eduardo was preparing for lunch for his dad as to when six unidentified gunmen barged into his house and shot him.

Bacho, fourteen years, had refused to pay taxes to the rebels. *Efren M. Balcomeda, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

■ STA. CRUZ, LAGUNA

Ex-US Navy man held for 2 rapes

POLICE have arrested a retired member of the US Navy here for allegedly raping two Filipina girls in two separate incidents, the police chief said.

Alexander Eleazarus Wolf, 46, was arrested around 8 p.m. on Thursday based on a complaint filed against him by his 16-year-old victim, said Sta. Cruz police director Supt. Marvin Garcia in a phone interview.

Garcia said the girl, accompanied by her parents, reported to police their theft added to their woes at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday. The teenager took her to a motel in the town and raped her.

Garcia said another girl, a cousin of the victim and also a minor, also went to the police to claim that Wolf had repeatedly raped her as well.

Wolf has been living in Laguna for nine years, Garcia said. *Mansur Cayon, Inquirer Southern Luzon*

■ EVENTS

'Ditas' Pinay, 53

BOMBASTIC "Ditas" Pinoy, a native of Cebu City, died last April 9. She was 53. Her family and friends mourned people who sent condolences and messages of sympathy. Her remains lie at MF Chapel at Mary Immaculate Church in Mandaluyong. Loe Pitias City. Overcome by illness in Loe Pitias City after a 2:30 p.m. Mass today. She was survived by husband Tony, children Rae and Ricky, daughter-in-law Mauricard grandson Kyle.

LEACHON

Calapan to host Mr Earth segment

CALAPAN, hopped-discipline city, will host the hong-green competition of the 2011 Mr Earth Philippines Beauty Pageant on May 6.

Calapan Mayor Pedrito Gutierrez Leachon, in a statement, said the Mr Earth candidates will hold environmental, plant trees and visit the city's tourist spots during their stay.

He said hosting the Mr Earth segment would help the city promote tourism.

The city's culture and tourism office, with help from Hotel and Restaurant Association of Calapan, will be spearheading the Mr Earth beauty pageant preparations.

Leachon said he is optimistic that the event would boost local tourism and the city's economy and offer a good opportunity to showcase its capability to host similar events in the future.

"We have a very wide place called Escuderos city, a proper venue to hold big events," said the mayor's statement.

The last event staged by the city was the annual Banica mountain-cat Arabian Island Beach Resort.

COTABATO CITY—The government of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) announced a massive anticorruption drive that will make use of sophisticated electronic technology amid reports of fund misuse by former officials.

The Commission on Audit (COA), in a report, said it has scrutinized "the anomalous disbursement of public funds" from 2006 to 2009 by the administration of Gov. Zaldy Ampatuan.

In its 120-page report released on March 17 by a team of seven auditors, COA said "total disregard of applicable laws, rules and regulations is evident" in many transactions emanating from the office of the regional governor during Ampatuan's time.

Ampatuan is currently in jail in connection with the 2009 Maguindanao massacres.

Without bidding

Among the COA findings were "purchases without public bidding" paid with the ARMM funds amounting to P451 million and "cash advances" of P866 million.

Acting ARMM Gov. Ansaruddin Adiong said the regional government was serious in rebuilding the regional government's image tainted by reports of fund misuse.

He told reporters here that a World Bank-backed anticorruption mechanism, dubbed the Electronic Business Systems or EBS, was being polished.

Dubop an electronically generated quick response system for feedback against shadowy fund handling, he said. EBS was seen as the answer to allegations of corruption against regional officials.

"Nobody wants public funds to go to waste or be misused purposes," he told reporters here Thursday.

E-mail complaints

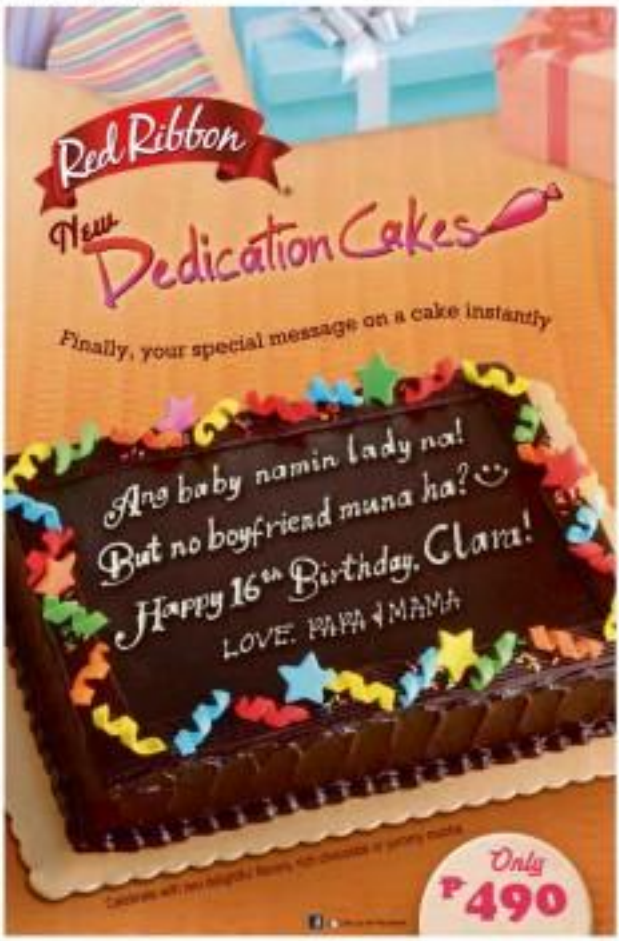
Adiong said he has ordered all regional agencies to make public their budgets and expenditures.

Nasser Hamidhe, head of the ARMM social fund office, said while he still was still being polished, complaints and feedback on government fund use in the region may be sent to his e-mail address, ar-mmsf@hotmail.net.

But he said even fully operational, the GRS could also accept complaints via mobile phones.

"Mass complaints or grievances sent to the GRS can be immediately acted upon by my office," Hamidhe said.

As this developed, the National Economic and Development Authority last week said it has approved the expansion of the ARMM Social Fund. Edwin Fernandez, *Inquirer Mindanao*



Ecozone protesters reach Aurora capital

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO... Residents of Dianeyan, Sanson and Sidewaters protesting the construction of the Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport (Apeza) in Casiguran were joined a yesterday morning by hundreds of their relatives Thursday.

The "Caravan ng Bayan (the Historic Caravan)," which left Barangay Diamond in Casiguran at 9 a.m., reached Barangay Ciudadreros in Cigarette town past 3 p.m., according to Fr. Jerome Pabalan.

Protesters alternately rode and marched on foot, stopping at Dilasag and Dipaculao to hold rallies, the Casiguran parish priest said.

Residents supporting the Apeza projects, a brainchild of Sen. Edgardo Angara, put up posters along the route and around Baley, the capital of Aurora.

Apeza is supported by governor Aurora residents," the pastor said.

Pabalan said the protesters will spend the night at the Baler Church. The caravan was scheduled to proceed to Maria Aurora and San Luis before the weekend and return to Baler by a meeting with provincial officials.

The caravan kicked off a day after the clergy of Aurora published a pastoral letter supporting the protest.

The letter, which was read in all the province's Mass of the Chrism, in which they committed to continue helping communities.

Bishop Julio Labayen and Bishop Noe Nuevas of the Prelature of Infanta, Quezon, had opposed the project and urged the senators his namesake Gov. Bellaflor Angara-Castillo, and his son, Rep. Juan Edgardo Angara to stop plans by Apeza to declare hundreds (more, lower low, forest and fishing grounds.

Apeza president Rebecca Mislang is in Taiwan and could not issue a statement, according to his staffer when the latter called.

Senator Angara said Apeza aims to bring progress to residents across through agricultural and tourism development, which does the Pacific Ocean, is being done with an airport, seaport, highway and other facilities. Fenanria Seglas, Inquirer Central Luzon

'Balikbayan' finds 'rescue' in dog rescue

By Cris Ebert S. Lim
Inquirer Visayas

CEBU CITY...Rosario Ms. "Rosi" Fernandez was a balikbayan who went to live in the United States in 2006 when she quit her job as a medical nurse.

She found a pet mill (named Libby) down by Library and even set a medical bill of supervisors from worthless pets.

The mill of American nurse Linda Rule replied and told her that Rule who runs an organization called Worldlaws Organization, would help save the dog.

Celebrated Libby in Cebu's rescue ranch and from there on, I treated eleven (canine) rescue," says Rosi.

She started to be involved with friends for the Association of Animals and became an active animal rescuer.

Rosi returned to the Philippines in December 2004 (8 years after working in the States.

She decided to put up an animal rescue organization in Cebu.

Rosi and her friends established Island Rescue Organization (IRO) in February 2010 to campaign for responsible ownership and for, most measures of animals.

"Human treatment of animals is, claims human compassion as well. One, passion is related to animal rescue," said Rosi. "Our mission...show compassion to other creatures as well. More often than not, they also lived their neighbors."

Rosi's love for animals is extensive by service.

She raises nine dogs inside her home while dog House are rescued from the streets.

Shilly a senior dog, was found by her nephew in the street. Now convalescent Shilly for rescue and still, gladly applied after all to her pain.

Dorothy, Chinni and Rosy were rescued in the States.

ECHO of the dogs rescued by Rosario Ms. Hernandez who says it's time to open her rescue and her.

Dorothy's another, a pure-bred pit bull, was saved by an elementary teacher. Dorothy was to be killed when Rosi's group asked to adopt her. She gave birth to five pups.

Rosi said animal rescue might her forgiveness. From the dogs she learned that "to each human, to forgive is to...

"I rescued them but it's them who rescued me," she said. "When you rescue them, there's a certain bond you have. They never forget. They're so loyal."

Today, IRO has at least 20 rescue members. But the total number of members has reached 100.

An IRO Community project in Cleme City Agency of young animal to help in the design.

"It's about passion and love for animals. We do and would love. When you open a door you, another door is meant to be," said Rosi.

2 Negros clans bond to thwart Iggy GF

By Carlo P. Cabarrus
Inquirer Visayas

BACOLOD CITY...Two old political families in the 6th district of Negros Occidental are pushing Davao mayoral representative Jurgenal Rosal, friend of outgoing Rep. Ignacio Arroyo. Jr. steps out to take his place when As...

The Yulos, Montelibano and Jocson Rep. Apolinario Lacson Jr. of the 6th district want to field a Mr. governor in the campaign, should not send "mixed Jun Jun (Iggy) current," said Palparan, the Mayor Iggy Arroyo "illegal" Feta.

Palparan was referring to Cesar Sarao, a resident of Don Jose City whose name was reported to be tagging as one for the 6th district representative in 2007 when the...

Feta described the candidacy of the Yulo, Montelibano and Lacson as an "unbeatable force in the 6th district."

Montelibano, grandson of the Basilio...

Jun Jun's Palparan's Association, said he let Lord Diana wanted to take over from Arroyo after his...

While he has no plans of running for congressman, Montelibano said he would support any member would be linked by the coalition.

Lacson said he, palparan, phone to...nominee that he would cooperate with the group of Feta and would support a Negrense for the 6th congressional...

Asked if the names he mentioned support Sarao, Lacson replied: "I don't think she is a Negrense."

Lacson, speaker...secretary of former president Fidel V. Ramos, was former congressman of the 6th district from 1998 to 2004. He lost to Arroyo in the 2004 and 2007 elections.

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Tighter security planned in Donsol

By Joey L. Gish
Inquirer Southern Luzon

DONSOL (ST)—Law enforcement authorities here imposed tighter security measures around Donsol following the arrest of several robbery in one month-old raid in the town that has announced tourists through its resources with wildlife attractions.

Senior Supt. Ferdinand Obinguis, Bureau police provincial director, said Thursday that more policemen were sent on patrol even at night.

Obinguis, however, said "there is really no cause for alarm."

Barangay Gov. Raul S. Lee and Chief Supt. Cecilio Calleja, local police regional director, visited Donsol to assess and order situation following the robbery at Dyan Resort, which is owned by a Korean couple.

The resort's manager, Michael Lapuyan Jr., was killed in the robbery while cash and valuables worth at least P100,000 were taken by the armed robbers.

Some tourists left the town following the robbery. Lee, however, said the number of tourists arrivals in Donsol compared to the number of those coming for experience encounters with whale sharks.

The governor said town officials he would support projects to improve security and tourism facilities in Donsol.

He proposed the installation of more streetlights in the area.

Obinguis said town and police officials also agreed to maintain a 24-hour hotline.

Dutch, 4 Pinays in cyber sex sued

CEBU CITY—A Dutch and four Filipino women were charged with human trafficking for operating cybersex dens in Consolacion, southern Cebu.

The complaint for violation of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003 was filed at the Cebu Provincial Prosecutor's Office on Friday following a raid on the apartment used as cybersex den.

The Dutch national was arrested during the raid and tagged the Dutch as the financier of the cybersex operation and two women as his managers.

The Commission on Immigration and Deportation (CID) in Central Visayas initiated the case, known in the complaint filed against the Dutch and the two managers.

The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act mandates the establishment of shelters, rehabilitation centers and programs for victims of human trafficking.

The regional CID confiscated a mini bus Wednesday after receiving information that the occupants in Sambag Hills, Consolacion, were being used for cybersex operations.

Ten women were caught in the cybersex dens, but only four were charged in court as victims.

Three men, who were in the apartments, were brought to the CIDG station and were tagged as witnesses.

In an affidavit, one of the men said he was recruited by the Filipino managers to work in an Internet cafe and would receive P12,000 every 15 days.

He said he was surprised when he was asked to participate in cybersex because he was told he would be a waiter.

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Women weave way to peace

By Noah B. Flordeliza
@Inquirermindanao

SEVENTY women are actively taking part in rebuilding villages caught in the armed conflict in Maguindanao in 2008 to become frontline "revivers areas" that cluster as a peace zone.

Kamlia Pelaro, 45, a nursing dozens of women engaged in rope making in Barangay Pagatin and Sambolawan in Datu Salibo town, said Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Undersecretary Nasser Pangandaman turned over to them 70 pieces of abaca seedlings.

She earns P75 weekly from selling coils of rope in villages where vegetables also easily grow and fish are freely caught, and she uses hers for her husband and their children in school.

Her new livelihood, officials said, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has allocated 61,000 organic sacks in Barangay Macku in Datu Saudi Ampatuan, and 32,000 sacks in Pagatin and Sambolawan in Datu Salibo, and Sapakan.

Men till in rice farm

The livelihood are working on a 101-hectare rice farm which, like the women's, Food-for-Work program, is supported by one of Two United Nations humanitarian aid organizations.

Officials said the UN World Food Programme and the agriculture department of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) are assisting the male residents as beneficiaries of free seeds for planting and staple food supplies for their families.

Sorry are languages to the three municipalities and other towns comprise the "return areas" for families displaced by wars between government and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) forces from July to December in 2008.

The fighting caused after the government withdrew from signing a memorandum of agreement on ancestral domain with the MILF in Malaysia, Gloria after then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo dismissed her chief of the National Addressing Congress' opening that year.

Around 300,000 people or close to 60,000 families had sought refuge in town centers in Maguindanao from clashes instigated by the group of Ameril Umbra Kato and an earlier series of offensives to South Cotabato. (Talks recently declared a breakaway from the MILF.)

Declining number

Last year, the number of "internally displaced persons" (IDPs) were down to 35,000 families, and now, only 2,400 families have gone yearback to their places of origin.

The military has seized around four as image of being the principal force of war to peace initiated, declaring the return areas as a "zone of peace" in collaboration with local government units (LGUs) and peace groups, according to Brig. Gen. Ariel Bernardo, deputy commander of the Army's 6th Infantry Division.

Shaleena Abdullah, 17, a mother of two, is also among the beneficiaries of the long-term rehabilitation program being carried out by the ARMM in collaboration with the UN aid groups, LGUs, the Mindanao Tulong Bakwet Inc. and other civil society organizations.

ARMM Executive Secretary Naguib Sinarimbo said the regional government has distributed 260 units of farm tractors with mechanized implements in the barangays, aside from the 60 units given by the International Committee on the Red Cross.

UN visit

Early this week, UN officials visited one of the return areas in Barangay Pagatin in Datu Salibo. They would not disclose how much the entire humanitarian assistance program was costing the UN groups.

Ambassador Jorge Eduardo Clem Charpentier, head of the UN executive board delegation, said he was "impressed" by the collective delivery of services and long-term programs for the communities.

The board is composed of UN Development Programme (UNDP), UN Population Fund (UNFPA), UN Children's Fund (Unicef), WFP and UN Office for Project and Services (UNOPS).

"We are impressed. Based on records we received from our field offices, the trend so far is satisfactory—very impressive ..." said Charpentier, who also represented the WFP.

Members of the humanitarian aid board were represented by Rashida Natarajan (Unicef), Fred Gonzales (UNDP), Jin Shichita (WFP), Magnus Lemarcusen (UNFPA), Ana Gasan-Kiti (Unicef), Mario Picazo (UNPhoto), Erika Jorgensen (WFP), Stephen Anderson (WFP) and Akemon Nobin (Unicef).

AMBASSADOR Jorge Eduardo Clem Charpentier congratulates a community volunteer from a partner civil society group, the Bulong Balanse Group, in Maguindanao.

'Based on records we received from our field offices, the trend so far is satisfactory—very impressive ...'

Priority areas

They gave priority to 10 return areas where a growing number of families benefit from United UN aid programs. The Department of Social Welfare and Development in the region has estimated the total cost of the entire rehabilitation package at nearly P82 million.

Rehabilitation support, Sinarimbo said, is "slowly shifting the focus of aid intervention from mere food items to sources of food," through a number of livelihood activities being supported under the ARMM's ERP return programs.

Sinarimbo said each family member was provided with a palayan (provision) of P1,500 aside from basic household supplies, such as bedding, mosquito nets and rice.

In the return area, the government has built small shelter units. Its some measures, however, returning evacuees would just repair their half-burnt houses.

Families in the new shelters found the place too far from the farms they used to till, and this has taken them away from real source of income, said Abdullah and Mamin.

Out of the total assistance package, the ARMM government has allowed P16 million for supply fund from its line agencies and the office of acting Gov. Sinarimbo Adiong, in the form of food and seedlings, farms and agriculture livelihood facilities.

The region's Department of Education (DepEd) has 365 classrooms built from funds extended by the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

Construction was completed in February in support of the DepEd's "Sulusan Pagadalawida" (Tricolarer School Brigade) program in all five ARMM provinces, said Aweina Alonto, ARMM administrative chief of staff.

PHILIPPINE Red Cross Chair Richard Gordon receives from Kazuyoshi Kioka, president of Isuzu Autoparts Manufacturing Corp., the company's donation of P2.3 million for the victims of the Japan earthquake and tsunami. Looking on are MMPC general manager Akira Okumura (left) and PRC Secretary Green Peng.

Poor students give back to Japan

By Carla P. Gomez
Inquirer Visayas

BACOLOD CITY—School children in disposed communities in western Visayas have long been benefactors of Japanese aid.

These past few weeks, however, the children, their parents and teachers have been dropping hard-earned coins into tins cans and sending letters of sympathy to send to Japan, which was recently hit by a devastating earthquake and tsunami.

"Dear Japanese friends," wrote some pupils from Ma-ao Barger Central Elementary School in Bago.

"Here is a small amount with our prayers that it could lessen the burden that you are facing at the moment, are will keep praying for all of you."

The Grade 1 to 6 pupils of Bago City Elementary School, who were beneficiaries of municipal tax measures from Japan, also sent a letter to the Japanese government, saying:

"In the past years you helped us in our times of need, now it is our time to help you back."

The western Visayas school district sent P25,000.25 to Negros Occidental Gov. Alfredo Marañon to forward to the Japanese earthquake victims.

The governor handed the donation to Shigemi Watanabe, director of the Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement (Oisca) training center in Bago City, Negros Occidental, which operates livelihood opportunities for the poor in the province.

"There are more boxes and tin cans with coins than we still have to count and convert," said Dr. Mildred Garay, Deped's director for western Visayas.

Watanabe said he was deeply touched by the donations given by the western Visayas pupils.

"Many children in Japan have become orphans, while others have lost their brothers, sisters, classmates and friends in the tragedy," Watanabe said.

In his, Marañon has turned over more than P900,000 in donations from local governments and private groups in Negros Occidental for the victims of the tragedy in Japan.

Marañon is president of Oisca Philippines, a Japanese outreach organization that helps create livelihood for the poor. The Aid to Japan was sent through Oisca to be distributed here by Oisca Japan.

Ilaya City, another beneficiary of Japanese aid, is also pursuing the ban removal.

Uno Michi, executive director of the Initiatives for International Dialogue (IID), yesterday announced the launch of the group's relief campaign for Japan.

Myron Musical Instruments Co.—which produces hand-crafted guitars —also announced it would donate 20 percent from the sale of each guitar to the Japan relief effort. The guitar making firm is based in Beijing but a majority owned by Iloilenos.

"Even a mighty Japan needs our help...the magnitude of the disaster is staggering and relief needs will continue to grow," Michi said.

With Jeffrey M. Tupas, Inquirer Mindanao

DepEd starts kindergarten summer sked

By Tarra Quismundo

THE DEPARTMENT of Education (DepEd) will start on Monday a two-month summer kindergarten program to reach 5-year-olds who failed to enroll in preschool in the past year.

The summer program would be held ahead of June 1 in public schools nationwide so pupils will be ready for Grade 1.

"This is for all incoming Grade 1 students who did not finish kinder... It's a bridge toward Grade 1," Education Secretary Armin Luistro told reporters in a one-on-one interview.

"We have fashioned our kinder program because we believe students who are unprepared for grade school drop out. They are supposed to start reading by Grade 1, but if students find it hard to read and recognize letters, they cannot cope," he said.

With the expanded kindergarten program, the DepEd hopes to meet its targets under the 2015 Education for All initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. It also aims to help the country meet its Millennium Development Goals.

"That's why despite what we lack in resources, we are pushing the kindergarten program. We believe it's key in reducing the early dropout rate," Luistro said.

Asked if two months would be enough to prepare the students, Luistro said the new school program "had been tested and proven helpful.

"According to our study, our two-month program already has a significant impact on their learning process," he said.

Ex-DPWH exec beats graft rap

FORMER DEPARTMENT of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Undersecretary Salvador Pleyto is on a winning streak in his fight against the graft cases filed against him.

After reversing an Ombudsman decision dismissing Pleyto from the government service for misconduct in 2007, the Supreme Court this year found him guilty only of negligence for failing to disclose his wife's business interests in his Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth (SALN) for the years 1999 to 2001.

In its March 23 ruling, the high court's second division ordered the forfeiture of six months' worth of his salary from his retirement benefits for inaccuracies in his SALNs.

But the Supreme Court ruled that Pleyto violated Republic Act No. 6713 or the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees.

In reversing the Ombudsman's decision in 2007, the high tribunal restored the retirement benefits of Pleyto, who served the government for 41 years.

The high court's March 23 decision stemmed from Pleyto's appeal of his dismissal by the Office of the President and the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission (PAGC).

The case originated from an anonymous complaint the PAGC received from "concerned employees of DPWH" in December 2001, accusing Pleyto of extortion, illicit affairs and manipulation of DPWH projects.

The PAGC learned from the Department of Trade and Industry that Pleyto's wife owned two pawnshops, a piggery, a poultry and a laundry shop.

PAGC found that Pleyto's SALNs for 1999, 2000 and 2001 did not disclose the business interests and financial connections of his wife, prompting the agency to charge Pleyto before the Office of the President for violations of RA 6713 and RA 3019 or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act.

Pleyto was dismissed from the service by the Office of the President in 2006, following a PAGC recommendation for his alleged falsification of his SALNs. Alden Rivera

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INQUIRER

OPINION

The plastic problem

EDITORIAL

IT IS so simple in theory but complicated in application. We have been told so often and for some time that plastic bags have a negative impact on the environment. This is even more telling in a flood-prone country such as ours, where plastic bags clog our overtaxed sewage systems. The big problem isn't just that plastic bags take forever to disintegrate, it is the massive number of plastic bags Filipinos use, reuse and even really throw away. The bags—in clear, white, red, blue, yellow and other shades—are choking the life out of the cities.

It is therefore elementary to expect that any step toward the complete eradication of plastic bags would be lauded and, more importantly, supported through action. But an environmentally conscious solution to the plastic bags problem may need the push of legislation to even be effective in this country.

That is why Senate Bill 2710, authored by Sen. Loren Legarda, is most timely and even carries with it a sense of urgency, as does Sen. Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s Senate Bill 2749. Legarda's bill asks supermarkets, restaurants and retail stores to cease using plastic bags. "In the problems of pollution, environmental degradation and severe weather shifts escalate, all sectors of society must act with dispatch. Individuals must make conscious efforts to change our daily routine and practices to produce a positive impact on our environment," Legarda said.

What is significant in Legarda's bill is that it not only calls on individual Filipinos to stop using plastic bags, it also calls on business establishments, which hand out plastic bags for almost every transaction, to take responsibility for the bags' disastrous effect on our environment and surroundings. "Companies must change their economic mind-set, reworked production processes and packaging methods—from the use of seemingly cost-effective plastic bags into investing in long-term reusable and recyclable bags which are more sustainable in the long run," Legarda explained.

Marcos' bill takes that a step further by advocating the use of biodegradable bags to protect the land. "Through this bill, consumers are encouraged to reduce and even totally eliminate the use of plastic bags, thereby saving the fragile life of the environment," he said. This may seem counterintuitive, but the idea is to find a way to stop using plastic bags altogether, be it by the singular Filipino or by large corporations.

It sounds so easy to do. After all, isn't banning the use of plastic bags a universal idea we can all get behind? But you would be surprised; someone is already trying—and it has proven to be far more difficult than expected.

In 2010, Muntinlupa City took a huge step forward when Mayor Aldrin San Pedro signed into law Ordinance 10S-109 which banned plastic bags and containers made from polystyrene and called for environmentfriendly substitutes. It sounds like the kind of forward-thinking, metropolitan rule-crafting that countrymen would wholeheartedly support. But Muntinlupa has met resistance after it began implementing the ordinance last January. Businesses, large and small, were a source of immediate defiance. An industry group, the Philippine Plastics Industry Association said that the problem wasn't the plastic, it was the lack of discipline. The Philippine Association of Supermarkets Inc. argued that paper bags were five times more costly than plastic bags.

Well, nobody says implementing laws promoting the environment was going to be easy. But does it really have to be so hard? It might be true that Filipinos need to exercise more discipline with the amount of trash they throw away—plastic bags or otherwise. But that doesn't make the move to ban plastics any less important. It doesn't have to be one or the other. In fact, if both could be done, then that would contribute the most serious effort thus far to curbing the serious threat of plastic bags. Instead of bickering, Muntinlupa deserves a thumbs up for daring to do what other cities only give lip service to. Now if only the rest of the country can follow the city's brave example—and rid ourselves of this plastic menace once and for all.

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Poverty and distributive justice

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

THE LATEST Social Weather Stations survey figures on hunger are certainly disturbing. More than 20 percent of Filipino families (or more than 4 million families) have reported experiencing involuntary hunger in the first quarter of 2011. Though the number is slightly lower compared to a year ago, the March figure nonetheless shows a steady quarter-to-quarter rise from the 20.8 percent of September last year. The problem, says SWS president and bayanan columnist Mahar Mangahas, appears to be concentrated in Luzon, where hunger has risen to a new record level of 25 percent. This is quite puzzling—and it is worth figuring it out—for there has been no major internal disaster in Luzon during the first quarter that might explain it.

The standard explanation would ascribe this rise to hunger to an increase in food prices. If that is indeed the fact (figures are lacking), then we are dealing here with a problem of inadequate income in the most general sense: the inflation induced by recent global events will be most severely felt. Still, there could be other factors behind the hunger figures.

March is always, for many poor families, an especially difficult month to handle. Whatever was left over from cash gifts received during the holiday season would be mostly gone by then. In March, preparations for graduation are in full swing. This is also one of the year when families are besieged by all kinds of school-collection solicitations, many cannot ignore or refuse to pay. The same assessment with graduation—whether from pre-school, grade school or high school—is often the battle cry of proprietors of the various agencies of ordinary families.

But I have a strong suspicion that what is causing a spike in hunger rates in Luzon, particularly, is the ongoing violations, by the Conditional Cash Transfer Program of the P-Noy administration. Even when I gather the latest views to assess eligibility for benefits under the expanded program began late last year and continue to the present. The indigent Filipino mother who is angling for CCT benefits would not be able to tell the difference between an interview conducted by the Department of Social Welfare and Development and an SWS survey. She would not know that there is no connection between the two. Hence, she would be inclined to present her family's circumstances in the direst possible way in any interview.

News about the CCT and the cutting of the 339,653 social workers from a contemporary upgrade like wildfire. It triggers a sense of anticipation that a handsome reward lies this political and social dynamics of a local community. A situation like this is exactly the right setting in which to get an objective assessment of poverty and self-reported hunger. This is not to cast doubt on the validity of the SWS findings, but merely to offer an alternative account that might explain the unusually high incidence of reported hunger in Luzon.

In any event, it is difficult to deny the seriousness of poverty elsewhere in the whole country. What makes the situation unacceptable is that more and more people are going hungry even while the economy is growing and investors in the top are faring. Wealth is certainly not trickling down, and there is no automated and systematic mechanism in the many levels many from the vicious cycle of poverty.

Like all dyads, conditional cash assistance may help ride a family over for a couple of days or a week, and it may even reduce hunger in the short term, but without a steady livelihood or source of income, no indigent family has no chance of breaking the interwoven as a lower life. The CCT program is definitely better than the discretionary but good medical missions in which we all participate at one time or other. But it is still a dole. It is not a long-term solution to poverty.

The long-term solutions has to focus on entrepreneurs, not individuals. It must focus on enhancing the productive capacities of people, on helping them help themselves rather than merely responding to their short-term needs. It has to be an investment in those unexplored policies rather than merely expressed in high-visibility charitable projects.

In general, all of us probably remember on such issues. We have many times been we forget ourselves repeatedly mesmerizing in statistics and narrowly targeted initiatives? Instead of we time framing would see abundance overcome, rise to some people. The latter is mostly personal and immediate in its impact, whereas economic justice is concerned mainly with general, and it usually takes a long time for its outcomes to be felt. The result is a public complacency about the moral order that is in the root of all the inequalities and exclusions in our midst.

Scandalized by the pervasive poverty that surrounds their good neighborhoods, many rich people try to justify the sharp differentials in wealth and opportunity that are in our society. The shallow among them invoke the law of learning the poor for their laziness and irresponsibility. In a sense, this is their way of morally surrounding their good fortune. They do not see the historical elements behind their own personal successes.

The more conscientious of them, who use their minds as well as their hearts, are the ones who know that they have escaped their fate for which their cannot claim any credit—their birth in a fortunate family, the happy circumstance of an early life, the accident of being born with qualities that are highly prized by society as a given time. And so they regard their personal success as the world as a stewardship, a duty to help improve the lives of the less fortunate. This is what this festive season is about.

+++

public.lives@gmail.com

Graduation

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

Indeed,
there is no sinner
without a future,
there is no saint
without a past

THE STORY a told about a little kid who feared blank, and never done. "Dear Mark, please grow up soon, and solve your own problems!"

In today's Gospel (Jn. 11, 1-45) Jesus raises up Lazarus from the dead and declares that: "I am the Resurrection and the life, whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." The Resurrection does not only say words but somehow has the reality and the promise of the Resurrection will give us the strength and the hope to solve whatever problems.

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The meaning and value of the Resurrection we live illustrated by true story of a boy crossing a wobbly hanging bridge. What gives him courage to go on is the sight of Jesus at the other end, holding the reins and waiting for him.

+++

Now due to our illumination above, the Lord does not do the walking for the boy. All of us will have to walk our walk in our journey. But the same time has been given to us by the Risen Lord that He will be with us in our journey in order to bring us to our final destination where the blessed rule at the throne or the right hand of the Father.

+++

Arce had friends. Lazarus was one of them. He also helped those family friends. We remember today and pray for all people whom we journey with in this life, living or dead, present or absent. On good time and the bad. At appointments in our lives. God sends people to accompany us on the road. Some may be regular, some may appear, but our hope is that we will all meet again because of the Resurrection, in that final, grand homecoming and reunion.

+++

"Someday we will forget the hurt, the sorrow we cried, and what caused us pain. We will finally realize that the secret of being free is our courage, but having things unfold in their own way and time. After all, what matters is not the first, but the last chapter of our lives which shows how well we ran the race." As we approach Holy Week that we be filled with the spirit of true conversion and repentance hope. It is never too late to change, and it is never too early to start.

+++

Let us look once our hearts today and see the good we must be remembered in our lives, and the bad we must be disposed of. At this point of our lives, we are change for the better. Indeed, there is no sinner without a future, there is no saint without a past.

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In the saying goes: "Never say die!" Whatever illness or weakness there is, it need not end in death! Arise with us today! "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, and that the Son of God may be glorified in it." Whatever suffering there is can be an offering. Whatever failure there is can be an opportunity to rise up, become a better person, and move on.

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Where we face any illness or weakness, the best attitude is that of gratitude. It is precisely the hope of the Resurrection that enables us to say "YES" to life with all its trials, mistakes, pains and failures and even death. If we can accept life, with a Creator, and accept death with a Savior, then there is no reason to fear again or despair.

+++

It is graduation time once again. Congratulations to the graduates and to those who helped them graduate. Let us all be reminded of the final graduation in heaven, where the good will be rewarded, and the evildoers will be punished. May we all pass our tests in this world and graduate from eternity.

+++

A very touching graduation ceremony was that of 12-year old Princess May Joy Villanueva who graduated salutatorian in her grade school class just hours after the remains of her mother arrived in the country from Dubai, where the latter was stationed on March 20 by drug trafficking. Indeed, a grain of valour falls and dies, and bears much fruit.

+++

In her graduation speech at the Dubai Elementary School in Jones, Isabela, Princess in tears said: "We will study hard to attain our dreams. This is the best thing we can do to repay our parents who have been working hard for us. Let us be strong despite the trials and struggles we face in our lives." Brave words, meaningful words we all need to reflect on as we move on in life.

+++

Final note to both up the ordinary page today and do not just read but also pray for the people mentioned here. Yes, let us pray for them, and ask them one to pray for us, listening to the "communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and life everlasting." Amen!

+++

A souvenir with the Lord:

Lord, be with me as I move on, and help me make it to the final graduation in heaven. Amen.

Annulment, yes; divorce, no

WITH DUE RESPECT

Antonio V. Pangalangan

MARIO MONTEJO was a recent press release of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines throwing shot—per the Office of the Solicitor General—that "judge unanimously" vote for more than 40 persons over the past 30 years. ... Rule 4.3(B) cited in 2001 in A.2.(B) in 2010." This is probably because since both the Church and the State allow legitimate annulment but prohibit divorce.

Difference from divorce. The true difference is actually none from the fact that the grounds for (1) annulling "voidable" marriages, and (2) declaring the nullity of a "void" marriage had "existed before or at the time of the exchange of marital vows. Hence, no valid marriage ensued from the very beginning. On the other hand, the cause for divorce arise after the exchange of "I do's." Thus, there was a valid marriage that was dissolved by divorce decree.

For this reason, our courts are authorized to annul voidable marriages and/or to declare the nullity of void unions, whether among Filipinos or aliens. However, they have no power to issue decrees of divorce, whether to or for Filipinos or aliens. Moreover, a divorce granted by a foreign court to Filipinos is not valid here.

Hence, a divorce obtained by a Filipino couple in Las Vegas, even through valid in Las Vegas, is not valid here. If one of the Filipino persons should remarry in the Philippines without marrying the first, she could be prosecuted for bigamy. If the husband remarry quickly with another woman without marrying, he could be prosecuted for concubinage.

However, a divorce granted by a foreign court to foreigners, if valid according to the national law of the spouses concerned, shall be valid here. Furthermore, a divorce between a Filipino and a foreigner obtained abroad by the alien spouse, shall also be valid here.

Ironically, the Filipino spouse shall likewise have the capacity to remarry under Philippine law," says article 26 of our Family Code. The Supreme Court (Republic v. Orbecido, Oct. 5, 2005) explained that Article 26 was enacted "to avoid the absurd situation where the Filipino spouse remains married to the alien spouse who, after obtaining a divorce, is no longer married to the Filipino spouse." The law prevents a situation where a Filipino is still considered legally married to an alien who is no longer married legally entitled to the divorce.

When foreign divorce benefits Filipinos. As of the 26 is the exception to the general rule that bars Filipinos from enjoying the benefits of divorce decrees obtained abroad. Under this exception, the Filipino husband could now legally marry another abandoning wife his Filipina wife. The divorce released the wife from her obligation to cohabit with him. Likewise, the Filipino wife could consider herself unmarried to remarry or co-habit, without being guilty of bigamy or adultery.

In a recent decision (Fujiwara v. Sta. Ana, Aug. 10, 2010), the Supreme Court ruled that the right given to the Filipino spouse by Article 26 is not available to the foreign spouse. In this case, a Canadian can be more secretive, a Filipino who obtained a divorce in Canada from his Filipina wife. The divorce in Canada from his Filipina wife has no right to ask a Philippine court to recognize the divorce decree as he could remarry whether Filipino. Only the former Filipino wife may do so, that is, ask Philippine courts to do the recognition.

A Philippine court decision includes the marital status of the Canadian because the capacity to marry is determined by the national law of the person who wants to be married. Aliens who marry in the Philippines are required to present to the solemnizing officer a certificate of capacity to marry issued by their embassy or consulate.

Void and voidable marriages. Retired Justice Jose C. Vitug, in his book, "Compendium of Civil Law and Jurisprudence," grouped void marriages into "(a) those where there is an absence of the essential and formal requisites of marriage (under Articles 2 and 3 of the Family Code); (b) bigamous or polygamous marriages; (c) those where a party to the marriage was psychologically incapacitated to marry at the time of the celebration; (d) incestuous marriages; (e) those contracted through mistake as to the identity (physical, not as to character), name or birthday of the other party; and (f) those declared void because of public policy. Also declared void by the Code are subsequent marriages which, in the case of absentee spouses under Article 41, both spouses of the subsequent marriage acted in bad faith (Article 44) and where, in the case of an annulment or of declaration of nullity of a marriage, the parties have failed to settle the petition and distribution of the property of the spouses of the prior marriage as well as the delivery of the presumptive legitimes of the children and the recording thereof in the civil registry (Article 52, in relation to Article 52)."

On the other hand, voidable marriages are listed in Article 45. These include those entered into by persons (a) without parental consent if 18 years or over but below 21; (b) of unsound mind; (c) whose consent was obtained through fraud (so-defined in Article 45(3)); (d) through force, intimidation or undue influence; (e) who are impotent or unable to consummate a marriage due neither to the inability to procreate is not a ground; or (f) afflicted with a serious and incurable sexually-transmitted disease.

The grounds and procedure for nullifying marriages in the Catholic Church are governed by Canon law.

(Comments are welcome at chatbox@pangalangan@hotmail.com)

A child's wisdom

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

In her book "Self-Worth and the Filipino Child," Canadian observer-chat "children are disempowered in our society.—Let us see us as—as grownups, as adults, as parents. We tell them, this way we talk to and regard them." Which is why she says, she would want her her or a team of psychologists to talk one just to Jan-Jan but to his parents and relatives as well, so that they can help them see the ways that it was right to teach a young boy to dance briefly in public, and that it was justified because he was going to be paid.

When she reached children who were sexually abused by their own parents, and children who were sexually abused and pressured, Canadians says she has a much harder time with the procedural children "because the dig-nals are mixed. They are angry about the abuse, but at the same time, they had a little good coming to them to help their families. It is very difficult for them to deal with these confusing messages."

As it is with families, so it is with the nation, she believes. In this case Indos "will reach out the Philippines" Then it is the duty of the child's needed to be timely, but it is to no subtle consequences that we cannot see it. The answer is providing with mindfulness, paying attention to what we are doing, asking questions about what we are doing, and knowing the rights of wrongdoers to what we are doing wrong.

"Discipline, dignity, and self-worth are the best gifts we can give to our children. Not coincidentally, these are also what our country needs most today."

THOSE ARE wise words of a child abuse that call for action not just from parents and families in society, but from states and the local institutional community.

One of those is the law on children as a "matter of national continuance, part of the general impact of armed conflict on children, where the United Nations considers "the primary victims of armed conflict."

Visiting Manila recently was Radhika Coomaraswamy, special representative of the UN Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict, who visited the country to follow up on action of items as per various parties to agree to an "Action Plan" designed to prevent and protect children caught in situations of violence.

More specifically, said Coomaraswamy, she was here to meet with representatives of the AFP, the PNP and the MILF, as well as the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP) (which coordinated her trip), the Department of National Defense, the DSWD and the NGO Plan International to see how the agreements forged could be implemented and monitored.

Generally, efforts are underway to put an end to rape in the number of child soldiers, and to identify their families and communities. "We need to see our frustrations in implementing the peace policy," says the UN official, adding that she is in the country and the region to "see what works, where the children came from and provide them with basic needs like water, sanitation, health facilities, infrastructure, power and schools.

* * *

AKBAYAN ABOUT the hostage situation in Aguinaldo, where an armed group led by and composed of teens kidnapped a group of teachers and students, Coomaraswamy said that while she has not been fully apprised of the situation, "I am confident that the government team in place and she is confident that the group kidnappers, once they are brought to justice, will receive "the special protection of the law."

Currently, she Philippines belongs to a "List of Shame," a compilation of countries in which "grave violations are taking place" and where efforts are being made to obtain any more children from the hostile arming from their violations.

The executioners

METHOD TO MADNESS

Patricia Evangelista

IN 2001, 36,110 Filipinos died from pneumonia, 20,891 died from tuberculosis, in Quezon City alone there were 3,240 recorded homicides, 60 murders, 50 rapes, and 629 robberies. In the entire country, there were a total of 2,862 recorded rapes, 11,832 major thefts, 16 recorded kidnappings, and 4,547 cases of physical violence. The impunity in the country dared to normalize deaths, with 142 killed since 1986.

The number of dead stirred scorn, rant, and very little else from the government. Fraud, libel, kidnapping, perjury, perjury—in the Philippines, the longer you live, the more you may be close and protects, but it has little effect on a nation that has accepted survival as sentiment.

After the Supreme People's Court of China announced the executions via lethal injection of drug mules Sally Ordinario-Villanueva, Ramon Credo and Elizabeth Batain, the death deaths out of 32 executions in the year. Of such importance, the effort was considered too much in the Philippine campaign to appease modest Beijing. The Philippines stood with China against Taiwan, stood with China against the human rights issue, stood with China against many of the complaints that the rest of international community lodged at China's failure coming to medal planning Presidents Aquino awards. Vice President Jejomar Binay was sent to plead on the couriers' behalf. "It is rare," groused Department of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson Ed Malaya, "for countries to send high level officials to appeal for their nationals."

After their execution, Presidential Spokesperson Edwin Lacierda offered the government's sympathies to the families left behind.

"It is a sad day for all of us," says Vice President Binay, whose efforts in behalf of the convicts secured a month's reprieve for the executions. "Until the last moment, we did everything we could to save the lives."

The Philippine government has not made any secret of the fact that three drug mules were guilty of their crimes. Their submit is their families submit is. Presidential spokespersons are careful in saying that they do not condone drugs. The President and they were asking for leniency. The appeal to China was hinged not on injustice, but on "humanitarian reasons." In short, the Philippines asked China not to kill, because killing is inhuman.

Holy Binay knows, just how sincere he is in his defense of the death penalty. There was no doubt as to his political savvy, as he offered sympathies and solidarity to those left behind, immediately after his much-publicized appeal for Chinese clemency. Binay's approval ratings soared far above President Aquino's. The fact that his role as savior is colored with hypocrisy has done little to affect the success of the ploy. After all, who only a month before the executions announced his support for the restoration of the death penalty in the Philippines. Binay demanded the death penalty after a spree of killings that left the elected remains of car dealers became instead news.

The new killings that Filipino citizens love, and Filipino citizens recognize the value of. Vengeance is a culinary invention and [illegible]

The connection of the death penalty has long been the knee-jerk reaction in the aftermath of public violence. "Pak. Ka," the common refrain goes, "dapat sa kanya ang bala." In the Philippines, it is only for the rare citizen that pierce public consciousness that offenders is galvanized into calling for the noose. Mr. Aquino's own mother Corazon Aquino certified as urgent relief proposing death as punishment for rebellion after a bloody 1989 coup. Right-profile murders during the Ramos administration led to the death penalty law in 1993. President Joseph Estrada ordered the deaths of seven men in his term. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was the first of the executioners. "The crime committed by the Filipinos was an act of brutality which deserves the ultimate punishment under the law."

The fact that the death penalty has been used in the past is no reason to be criminal, but deaths will never foster criminals. And yet there is the question of the effectiveness of death as deterrent. At our Philippine position paper for the First Legal Assistance Group. "The overwhelming conclusion from years of deterrent worldwide is that the death penalty is, at best, no more of a deterrent than a sentence of life in prison." The average crime rate in fact rose by 6.4% percent in 1994 with the re-imposition of the penalty, with rape rising by 44 percent in 1995.

Politicians, with very little effort, are suddenly turned avengers, heeding public anger while ensuring the dissent of intellectuals. But there is other ways to heed the compelling strips of the state. Senator Binay, who vowed he would even any move to repeal the death penalty, promised to repeal it late, will after strong lobbying by the Catholic Church and the Episcopal Bench. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who began her political career opposed to the death penalty, announced she would order the immediate executions of up to 16 convicted kidnappers after a surge of victim kidnappings among the Chinese community and foreign nationals.

"Let us prepare the lethal execution chamber for those champions of darkness for the sake of our society," she said.

Yes, it is. But this appeal to the darkness among the street people—the day before the left for the dances for a meeting with Pope Benedict XVI.

The list goes on. The death penalty after the Hospicillanos massacre, the death penalty after the Alabang Boys massacre, the death penalty after the Maguindanao Massacre. Because none, how it is the Vice President, new bets in execution of the forgetful, who supports the return of death. Today, new bills sit in Congress for the restoration of the death penalty for stomach-churning the capital offenses, including rape dealt with inclusive and the trafficking of dangerous drugs. The other, third like a video game Tate Cimio, makes death penalty the illegal logging.

This is what lives are reduced to: the passing chips and discussions, even as the justice system has proven time and again its liability. Capital punishment would have murdered innocent Hubert Webb and Antonio Sanchez, leaving a bandwidth at his father lives in the United States with his more sophisticated investigations and more stable career system, at least 120 people have been released from death row after evidence of their innocence emerged. During Estrada's term, one convict was killed just as Estrada called an offer a last minute reprieve. Former Supreme Court Justice Antonio Bengarbar has continued to claim the execution of kidnapper was too lawful.

And so we wait, while these families execute, for the next controversy that will send the gentlemen of Congress arrangements to the death penalty. Perhaps the human rights is complex, and there is no consideration. Perhaps Binay is a term, and the lesson is risk—that murder as punishment is inhuman when China puts the trigger; that it is justice in the hands of a Filipino executioner.

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India's corruption curse

WORLD VIEW

Jaswant Singh

NEW DELHI—A scorpion creeping today! In first glance, such a question seems absurd. After all, India has had a functioning democratic order since before 1947, and its economy weathered the storms global economic slowdown years relatively well (a combination of factors that have institutionalized civil rights has raised serious concerns about the future that corruption poses to the very fabric of the Indian state.

Of course, India is not experiencing any Arab-style "youth pushes" in response to the current corruption scandals plaguing the Congress Party-led government. Nor is it likely to do so. India's economic constraints in whose K.2 percent to 9 percent annual growth rate—are the envy of many competitive elections on tourism.

But disparities and discontents are rising, driven in part by fast-price inflation, which recently topped 20 percent year on year. Indeed, stimulus packages more suitable to recession-hit countries Manufacturing growth has turned sluggish, and the fiscal deficit has been driven 5 percent of GDP, gravely straining the economy. As a result, limited foreign direct investment has slowed and investor confidence is waning.

Moreover, almost one-third of the country's industrial-service sector are now affected by extreme Left-wing "Maoist" violence. Essentially, India's immediate neighborhood, with Pakistan worrying, is more and more unstable.

But, on top of all these woes sits corruption, crippling all the organs of state and reaching into its topmost offices. Throughout the Indian parliament's winter session, the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) demanded the establishment of a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) to investigate seemingly endless series of public scandals. The government, however, would not concede on this point, and the opposition refused to relent.

The ensuing parliamentary gridlock—a near-certainty of the parliament ended with not a single item of legislative, governmental, or other business conducted. The government's earlier mode of struggle. But, without a fundamental sense of solidarity with one's fellow citizens, no parliamentary democracy can function.

There is also a growing sense that India has forgotten how to accommodate dissent, that alternative perspectives are considered entirely treasonous. As a result, the government views the agreement as a "distraction," a rebellious challenge that must be crushed.

The rule, order and process of the language with which the government addresses the opposition, and vice versa, has become considered, increasingly repositioned, suspected of the spirit of democracy. Democracy—of concepts of tolerance and accommodation of opposing views are treated as signs of weakness.

In such an atmosphere of contempt for opposition, corruption grows and festers. And it is not, regrettably, confined to a few rogue politicians who is evoking the charm and balances of India's democratic order. As a result, other centers of representative institutions is an empty shell of residual decision-making, with bribery being the only real component of government.

The "transactions" that has taken such a firm grip on much of Indian politics plays a large role in fostering corruption. After all, inherited political powers is the very antithesis of democracy because it undermines the principle of equality. Such inequality is already, both the cumulative and the aggrieved feel that they must turn to corrupt means to make their voices be heard.

Preserving hereditary privileges invariably requires that basic and governmental processes get bent, if not made wholly subservient to dynastic interests. Today, all of India is paying the price.

Project Syndicate

Jaswant Singh, a former Indian finance minister, foreign minister and defense minister, is the author of "Details India—Decisive—Independence."

TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to: [illegible]

Edited by Jose V. Bautista Jr.

10 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Safety of PH structures during quakes

By Benito M. Pacheco

1 Are magnitude and intensity of an earthquake the same?

They are not. Magnitude is a measure of the energy that is released during an earthquake, while intensity is a description of the variable shaking that is experienced in different areas.

Intensity is usually written in Roman numerals (for human illustration from magnitude, which is usually in Arabic numbers).

The magnitude of an earthquake is a single number. For instance, a magnitude 7.2 is expected from the West Valley Fault that traverses from Sierra Madre through Metro Manila to Batangas.

The magnitude scale is logarithmic; however, magnitudes 7.2 and 7.3, the equivalent of energy is about 0.4 times. Intensity magnitudes 7.6 and 8.0, about 32 times!

The voltage of a light bulb is analogous to the magnitude of an earthquake. The intensity of light or intensity of an earthquake varies according to several factors, including distance from the bulb or distance from the epicenter.

Other factors that affect earthquake intensity are soft or soft types, ground vibration, and depth, height and type of built displacement.

What intensities can a magnitude 7.2 earthquake from the West Valley Fault generate in Metro Manila?

According to the 2004 Metro Manila Earthquake Impact Reduction Study by the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs), the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority and Japan International Cooperation Agency, intensities VIII (very destructive) to IX (devastating) may be experienced alongside Marikina Valley and most Manila Bay. Lesser intensities may be experienced in most of Quezon City.

In the worst-first large magnitude and high-intensity earthquakes are probable, are they not the Metro Manila has high resistance to the other regions in the country?

2 How computer is the construction of buildings to decide on earthquake loads like the Metro Manila?

Construction is very computerizable on earthquake loads, including the Silva Valley Fault that traverses Metro Manila. Why? And how older is this one?

It was in 2001 that the National Structural Code of the Philippines published the maps by Phivolcs that indicated the active faults in the country. As a result, buildings that were designed and constructed earlier did not take into account the faults.

Earlier did computerized formats were not easily available.

Phivolcs now recommends avoiding construction within 5 meters on each side of a fault trace, or a total width of 10 meters. We may call this the short "10-meter wide no-build zone" in the vicinity of a fault.

Ideally, we should not build on the 10-meter wide zone. However, to avoid the hazard of ground losses.

It will be extremely difficult for the foundation of a structure to withstand ground failures or deformations. Because a bridge or a pipeline cannot avoid crossing a fault route, a special design will be needed to accommodate deformations of at least one meter.

We may also speak of a 30-kilometer wide near-fault zone that requires, since 2001, the highest seismic design forces to withstand ground shaking (in accordance with the United Uniform Building Code) and ground failure in the 10-meter wide no-build zone.)

At present, the exposure of houses and buildings is very high within the near-fault zone and no-build zone and the 10-km wide near-fault zone.

TRACE of the West and East Valley Faults

3 Is it true that liquefaction or "quicksand effect" is a threat to structures located far from the 10-km near-fault zone?

Yes, the ground may liquefy or turn into quicksand even in areas beyond the 10-km wide near-fault zone.

If the soil is made to go from dense and consolidated, the water table is just a few meters below the ground surface. If the ground-shaking intensity is high and sustained for 30 seconds or more, then the soil may liquefy.

With liquefaction, whole houses and buildings may tilt and even topple.

Strong or rippling of structures during liquefaction could be slow, giving occupants enough time to evacuate. A permanent tilt or serious cracking may render a structure unusable.

Deep foundations such as concrete piles, 30 meters deep or deeper, are recommended for large buildings in areas such high liquefaction potential to avoid tilting or sinking.

There are also ground improvement techniques, mostly expensive, that will liquefy and densify the soil. But these techniques are not yet widely used in the country.

4 What maximum intensity is considered by the current building code?

It is better to ask engineers about the maximum acceleration (movement in meters per second per second) considered by the current code.

Intensity scale, by definition, is really descriptive rather than quantitative. In the Philippine earthquake maximum scale from I (1) to X (10), however, only VIII can be described as "very destructive."

In Intensity VII, many well-built buildings are considerably damaged. Concrete dikes and foundations of bridges are destroyed by ground cracking or toppling.

In intensity VI, damage slight to moderate. Well-built ordinary structures are slightly damaged, but considerable damage in poorly built structures. Fall of chimneys, factory stacks, monuments, towers and elevated tanks.

In intensity V, felt by nearly everyone; many awakened. Some dishes, windows broken. Unstable objects overturned. Pendulum clocks may stop.

In intensity IV, felt by many people in buildings; few outside. Dishes, windows, doors disturbed; walls make cracking sound. Sensation like heavy truck striking building. Standing motorcars rocked noticeably.

In intensity III, felt quite noticeably by persons indoors, especially on upper floors of buildings. Many people not aware that it is an earthquake. Vibration like passing truck. Standing motorcars may rock slightly. Vibration like passing truck.

In intensity II, felt only by a few persons at rest, especially on upper floors of buildings. Delicately suspended objects may swing.

In intensity I, not felt except by very few under especially favorable circumstances.

5 Which building will experience higher intensity, a low-rise or a high-rise?

Tall buildings will be shaken more by large earthquakes than their opposites by weak, or 10 km.

Such earthquakes, which may occur in different regions, or it is more likely to be felt, tend to propagate long-period (low-frequency) vibratory waves that "runs" to the natural vibration periods of tall buildings.

Low buildings will be shaken more by large or moderate earthquakes from nearby faults, such as the West Valley Fault.

Rare-fault earthquakes tend to propagate short-period (high-frequency) vibratory waves that "runs" to short buildings.

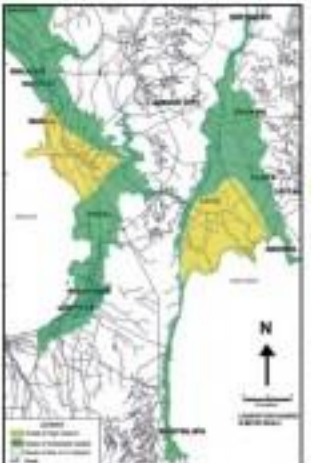
Ideally, every building, whether low-rise or high-rise, needs to be designed to withstand earthquake shaking. The earthquake hazards in the country may come from nearby faults, such as the West Valley Fault, and offshore trench fault.

6 Can structures that comply with the national building code escape damage from an earthquake?

No, damage is not precluded by compliance with the minimum requirements of the national building code.

The minimum standards are aimed to prevent any collapse or catastrophic collapse of structures, the final aim still being to

Inset: Marikina Valley Fault



LIQUEFACTION hazard map of Metro Manila

7 What percent of buildings comply with government standards?

More than 70 percent of low-rise residential buildings in Metro Manila and perhaps in other regions may not be complying with current government standards for construction or that because these are nonengineered structures or because those were built according to much older standards that are non-inadequate.

Building construction standards are periodically updated, incorporating lessons learned from recent earthquakes in the country and overseas. The current structural code was adopted in 2001 and recently in 2010.

More than 20 percent of mid-rise buildings may be nonconforming to current seismic standards. Anecdotal reports indicate that some engineers are inclined or persuaded to "optimize" or "minimize" their structural designs to reduce the initial construction cost.

The cost of the structure of high-rise buildings may be about half of the building cost, due to nonstructural architectural, electromechanical and other factors.

Some engineers formally aim for minimum compliance with the structural code, and not more than provide judgment or assurance for "margins of safety."

In contrast, it is notable that many old buildings were designed and built above the prevailing standards that were applicable during their construction. Such buildings, even if old, may be audited and possibly proved adequate even by current standards and codes.

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The minimum standards are aimed to prevent any collapse or catastrophic collapse of structures, the final aim still being to

Lift sources all occupants.

A building that follows the minimum standards may still be repairable and thus needs to incorporate earthquake in the point that it will require considerable repair before it can be reused.

Unlike in the United States or Japan, we do not provide in our building code the choice of (say) higher level(s) of design criteria, the kind that will ensure uninterrupted use of the building.

Some owners of major buildings choose to engineer their engineers to design for higher performance standards. BPO companies and global communication and electronics plants are typical examples.

Hospitals or even master's memorial design is not necessary even in the most highest standard.

Over the past 30 years, base-isolation technologies for low-rise buildings in seismic-active areas or havens involved in the seismic design have been introduced in the country.

Damages or damaging devices against vibrations due to earthquakes have collected in a few very tall buildings.

In a few major projects, worst-case scenario earthquakes have been considered in the analysis or design, over and above the minimum requirements of the code.

11 What is the value spent in a building during a earthquake?

As a rule of thumb, significant damage may still happen in a well-designed building. During an earthquake, it is generally advisable to stay inside or outside nearby columns, door frames or desks or open spaces in the building.

Hollow block walls and ceilings are not considerations, pieces of furniture, and fixtures or walls and ceilings tend to be hazardous during a shaking.

In the current house that burns or whole floors are slowly collapsing, (usually) supporting elements (like columns, door frames or walls) may cushion the impact of falling objects or debris.

It is not advisable to move to higher floors). When the group shaking is over, it is generally safe to leave the building, may be from falling debris.

12 Why are building owners not complying or upgrading their structures?

Upgrading or retrofitting of buildings is subject to issues (various building standards including significant issues.

Indirect costs due to disruption of occupancy during upgrading or strengthening are also a significant problem.

It is less expensive to design and build with some main provisions and above the minimum code requirements than to upgrade or retrofit a building later.

In the United States and Japan, the government provides financial and other regulatory incentives to incentivize building owners.

The new structures considered more prominent buildings (i.e., in the process making the retrofitting technologies more familiar to the public and the corresponding costs less prohibitive.

13 Who is responsible for the structural integrity of a building?

The owner of the house or building is responsible for the structural integrity including the physical protection of occupants and users.

Besides, in cases of construction under the Civil Code of the Philippines, engineers or architects and contractors (builders) are held liable for any structural failure due to defects in design or construction.

For buildings and houses that are older than 10 years, the owners are wholly responsible and liable.

(Benito M. Pacheco obtained his Ph.D. in civil engineering (structures) from the University of Tokyo in 1987. He is a professor and director of the Institute of Civil Engineering, College of Engineering, University of the Philippines Diliman.)

Soldiers of peace: Son picks up where father left off

From page A1

the next 19 years until it signed a peace agreement in 1996.

Bautista was then 39 years old, and on his second year at the Philippine Military Academy (PMA).

"All I wanted was to graduate so I could join the Army. I just did my best," he said.

He finished seventh in a field of 165 in the PMA Class 1981, receiving various awards, including the Distinguished Cadet Award.

Youngest AFP chief hot

At 52, Bautista was the youngest of the 10 generals that Mr. Aquino considered last month to succeed AFP Chief Gen. Alexander Yano Jr. The President eventually chose Gen. Eduardo Oban Jr., the AFP deputy chief and a member of PMA Class 1979.

During the top-level reorganization in July 2010, Bautista was appointed to the crucial post of deputy chief of staff for operations (J3) who assists the chief of staff in formulating plans and policies on all matters concerning operations and campaigns.

The AFP had to come up with a new overall command structure to plan to replace the previous seven-administration's Oplan Ratsay Loya that was linked to summary executions and human rights abuses in the past.

According to Bautista's military studies, as J3, he led the formulation of the new Internal Peace and Security Plan Bayanihan.

"Since we're going to make a new plan, let's do it right," he explained to an interview.

No sole credit

Stressing that no one can take sole credit for the new plan, Bautista said Bayanihan was a the result of brainstorming among the military, government agencies, and civil society groups that considered best practices from general commanders to get the rebels to lay down their arms.

Right after graduation, Bautista volunteered to be assigned to Jolo, Sulu, with the 1st Infantry Division that his father had commanded before his death.

But the Army commanding general, Maj. Gen. Fortunato Abat, let him stay and told him to choose any assignment so long as it was not in Mindanao.

The young officer was not deterred and as a compromise, he was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division in Lanao del Norte.

His father's legacy

In the course of his military career, Bautista was sent to various command posts as an infantry and Scout Ranger officer that saw him fighting against the communist New People's Army (NPA) at the peak of the communist insurgents' strength in the 1980s.

But he was never assigned to Jolo where a military camp had been named after his father.

Bautista said that he has kept mum about his father's killing but realized by fully, as he knew it went against the legacy of his father.

"On the one hand, you want to take revenge, but the legacy of your father was as a soldier of peace. He treated them as our brothers. He gave up his life for peace and reconciliation. I didn't want to waste his life and sacrifice," he said.

Bautista said he has accepted what happened in the line of duty to part of his chosen profession.

He also would have it. Bautista found himself in opposition to shape the direction of the military's strategic security approach for the six years of President Aquino's term until June 2016.

Shift in AFP strategy

In his or military operations go, Bayanihan marks a paradigm shift since it would focus on "internal peace," a "people-centered approach," and recognizes that counter-insurgency is not just the military's concern but that of the whole nation.

It demands from soldiers the utmost respect for human rights and international rules of war and a recognition of peace negotiators as the only way to end the armed conflict.

The 48-page open document admits to the AFP's shortcomings in addressing ideology-based armed insurgency, and rebels has kept the military away from its original role as an external defense force.

"Owing to historical provisions, the greatest hindrance to stronger civilian-military cooperation is the attitudinal perception of human rights violations allegedly committed by military personnel," it said.

It said that because it has realized that a strategy that pays a premium on a military solution has been inadequate in addressing armed security threats, the AFP was embarking on a "paradigm shift to the way it views its institutional mandate."

No other way

Some sectors are skeptical that the separate Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), the other major Muslim insurgency, and the National Democratic Front, the political arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), would give up their leverage and abandon armed struggle now that the government has restored peace negotiations.

"But there's no other way. We have to continue trying to search for peace. It cannot be resolved by purely fighting," Bautista insisted.

He stressed how the Bayanihan concept could be successfully applied when he commanded the 7Sand Infantry Brigade under the 7th Infantry Division in Samar province.

"You have to show your sincerity. In Samar, we did two things in terms of military operations: there was both military presence and social projects, humanitarian assistance.

"The first thing I changed is their impression of the military. In my brigade I made sure there was discipline...that they were respectful and that they did not violate human rights," he said.

According to Bautista, while combat operations against the armed rebels should show them the futility of armed struggle, the military should also work with community leaders to convince the rebels to abandon their armed struggle.

"Combat operations is just one part of the overall strategy. Without saying that we reduce it, we have to put it in perspective and introduce other ways to complement your efforts," he said.

More than repeating the number of casualties, it is also important to take care of the surrenderers, he said.

"Once they surrender, show that you are really sincere to help them," Bautista said.

Primacy of peace process

According to the Bayanihan strategy, the military wants to ensure "irreversible" the armed component of the CPP and "reorientate them to abandon the armed struggle and instead engage in peace negotiations with the government."

He likens the CPP to "a political party that wants to win by using a private armed group," the NPA.

"In Europe there are many communist parties. If the people want them to win in elections, then let it be. But not through the force of arms," he said.

The AFP's desired end-state for the MILF is "for the government to achieve a negotiated peace settlement and attain just and lasting peace in Mindanao."

Why argue with Bayanihan?

"It's simple. To our people, it's saying no to violence, no to armed struggle and striving to once-in a peaceful way," he said.

He said the peace process should have primacy and the military is there to support this process.

"The role of the AFP is simply to force them to sit down at the negotiating table. As long as they're doing that, then we're doing good," he said.

"Because a negotiated settlement is the only solution. We cannot hope to finish each other off. We cannot finish off all the enemies of the state. And do we really want that when our participation is that they are Filipinos, they are (our) brothers?" Bautista said.

He admits that in the military is a "challenge" to get everyone on board all at once, to support the shift from a purely combat approach to a people-centered one.

"It remains a challenge. But we've planted the seed. It's going to be debated continuously. But how can you argue with Bayanihan?" he said.

A fighting chance

As his father took the risk of meeting with rebels, sometimes, for the possibility of winning the peace, Bautista is convinced that the country has a fighting chance to end the insurgency problem and move forward with Bayanihan.

"We have been fighting for too long. Too many have died. The casualties include our fathers. How many more will suffice?" he said.

He has shown only a passing interest in Senate Bill, Sin Is. don't assailed. He said he had heard that Bill died upon his return from Malaysia when he fled after the massacre.

'Let it be'

"I don't know I have no exact information. I'm in Is," he said.

After nearly 16 months as J3, Bautista will get the chance to carry out the Bayanihan concepts in his real field command post.

"We have an obligation to really win the peace because we owe it to those who came before us, like my father. We owe it to our people, we owe it to ourselves," he said.

"My own father was killed trying to reach out. If I am able to overcome it, who can counter this?" he adds.

SCUE

HAL GEN. EMMANUEL BAUTISTA (center) discussing his father's legacy as "soldier of peace"

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KAKI, TO I-KEEP DIES Flanked by ambassadors of a number Philippine ally and envoys, President Aquino leads the 69th anniversary rites of the ng Magkaibigan bataan Philippine and dersar ng sa sundiers who made the country's last stand at nadin Bataan in Pint M'dur E. The ceremonies, attended by American Ambassador Harry Thomas (left) and Japanese Ambassador Hideaki Kumura, were held at the Dambana ng Kagitingan sa Mt. Samat in Pilar, Bataan, yesterday

Apologies, remorse from Japan envoy

PILAR, Bataan—Almost 70 years after Filipinos and Americans in defiant surrendered to Japanese forces in Bataan and went forward to march to their deaths as to the concentration camp in Tarlac, Japanese Ambassador Mitsuhiro Kimura expressed regret and remorse to Filipinos.

"At I stand before this venerable shrine on Mt. Samat, let me tell you how my country killed to all those who fought and fell, and my heartfelt apologies and deep sense of remorse over the damages caused by the Japanese in the area — during World War II, including the tragic Bataan death march," Kimura said in his speech at yesterday's commemoration of Araw ng Kagitingan.

Kimura said that Japan was reborn as a peace-loving country after World War II and that it had resolved to contribute to peace and prosperity in the world.

"In this context, I am deeply moved by the Filipino people's noble spirit of reconciliation and sense of fairness. Indeed, the Filipino people have been opposed to the Japan as we are today—a peace-loving nation that shares the fundamental values of democracy, freedom and respect for human rights," he said.

Kimura also thanked the Philippines in light of the visceral earthquake and tsunami that killed thousands in Japan.

"I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the heartfelt messages of sympathies and condolences which the Excellency the President and many people of the Philippines have extended," he said.

Norman Bordadora

P-Noy hails ...

From page A1

to emulate the spirit of service that they exhibited.

"Let us show that their sacrifices have not gone to waste."

Mr. Aquino said the Philippine Veterans' Memorial Medical Center had upgraded its operations with additional equipment and improvements in the operating room and intensive care unit.

"The Philippine Veterans' Affairs Office (PVAO) has also ensured that there are more hospitals across the country where veterans and their families can receive the P800-daily subsidy for every day of confinement in the hospital," he said.

Mr. Aquino reported that the Department of National Defense (DND) had allocated P1 million for the health insurance of qualified veterans under a memorandum of agreement between the PVAO and Philippine Health Insurance Corp. (PhilHealth).

He said the government had been monitoring the implementation in the Philippines of the Veterans Equity Compensation Act signed by US President Barack Obama in 2009 to make sure the benefits were received by the proper recipients.

The law provides $15,000 to Filipino vets and $15,000 to those who had taken American citizenship.

About 8,000 vets have received the separate, Mr. Aquino said.

Ghost pensioners

The President also declared that the anomaly of "ghost pensioners" among the war vets had been put to rest.

He said the system put in place by the PVAO since 2006 had resulted in savings of P4 billion.

"Our latest news from the [DND] is that ghost pensioners are already part of history," the President said.

"The funds have been streamlined and saved," he said, adding that this had enabled the government to pay off 80 percent of debts to more than 15,000 veterans.

The separate relief by the President include the Union Bank service Service Security System, rebates and only-assisted bid and rate payments of pensions but also presented. Those who failed to open bank accounts within a year from further receiving payments.

Those here are the Revolutionist Program and the PVAO pensioners' identification system that "further identified veterans that already died and that are no longer eligible to receive money."

Best allies

The President cited the United States and Japan as the Philippines' best allies after the war.

"I know that those generations ago, the three of us were in conflict, but since then, our country has had no greater friends than the United States and Japan," he said.

Mr. Aquino said that Japan had been a partner toward economic progress as it provided the needed technology to cope with calamity, and that the United States shared with the Philippines "a long history of cooperation and mutual defense."

"Time has proven that we can count on allies like them, and I am confident that they will stand by us should there be a threat again to our security and sovereignty and that they will support the path that we have taken toward transparency and progress," he said.

With these partnerships, he said, he would continue efforts to stamp out corruption and poverty.

Mixed feelings

There were mixed feelings among the veterans who were hearing the President's speech.

"I should thank [Mr. Aquino] for showing care for us veterans. He has not forgotten our welfare. I hope he can really clean up the pension system of the PVAO," said Constancio Bermudez, 88.

A native of Pandal, Bulacan, Bermudez served in the Philippine Commonwealth when he retired as a colonel.

Ilan Ruberto Gavayan, 84, of San Fernando City in La Union, was dismissed.

"I was nothing for him to act. I was treated for an increase in my pension. We get only P8,000 a month, which is not enough for our everyday needs," said Gavayan, who fought under the 121st Infantry Regiment of the Philippine Scouts.

But Gavayan said he was not complaining.

"I know the President is new on the job and he cannot instantly solve many concerns. But I'm happy the President came to me. I think his coming shows that he cares for us," Gavayan said.

Serrano and Gavayan were among some 800 soldiers, accompanied by their family members, who attended the Araw ng Kagitingan ceremony at Mt. Samat.

Jess Diaz

Educators warn solons: Marcos was not a hero

From page A1

as an anti-dictatorship ruler," it said.

CEAP pointed out that the "video-ame tale" of the "Mahadlike guerilla unit" that Marcos supposedly led during the war was "definitively exposed ... as a total fabrication" by American historian Alfred McCoy in a well-researched study 25 years ago.

McCoy's revealed that official US military investigations into the Makabalikas' story soon after World War II already dismissed the claim as a hoax," CEAP said.

"Why should we now give the perpetrators of this lie a hero's hero?" it said.

The group acknowledged that Marcos was the Philippines' longest-serving President. But this was because he declared martial law, used military expenses to silence opponents, disarmed what was then a very powerful and working democratic system and perpetrated himself to power through an unconstitutional coup that was never legitimately ratified," CEAP said, adding:

"We can list supportive claim that Marcos built the modern foundations of the Philippines' when he presided over the country's near economic collapse under the burden of billion loans and corrupt practices which in that day our economy has not fully recovered from."

"Have Filipinos, but family and cronies, to make fully accountable for the serious charges of plunder—the stashing of Filipinos wealth that sank the Philippines, while our Asian neighbors took off economically during his tenure?"

Hallowed ground

CEAP said that the Libingan ng mga Bayani was "hallowed ground meant for true heroes" and that Marcos did not belong there.

"Did Marcos really 'serve' the country? Who he truly acted his death a 'patriot'? Where are remorse divine and judge his personal motives, the terrible suffering and damage wrought by Marcos' 14 years of authoritarian rule to make-nobble," the group said.

"The true patriotic commission given to the many victims of martial law, though symbolic in monetary terms, is damning proof that the Marcos regime was guilty of gross human rights violations," it said, "to this the son of person we want to see elevated among genuine veteran leaders and patriots?"

CEAP urged the lawmakers who handicapped the revolution calling for Marcos' burial at the Libingan to "seriously consider" withdrawing their signatures.

"We urge you to understand the true meaning of service, patriotism and heroism. We challenge you to rise to the challenge of reservation, duty and not be enslaved by facile political collegiality and false notions of 'reconciliation' and 'solidarity,'" it said.

Speak out

The group urged other Filipinos, particularly those who suffered martial law and had to speak out against the proposed hero's burial and shame it as "unruly expulsive and deceptive."

"We tell on our schools to be ever vigilant against those who seek to erase and resurrect past history to suit their selfish interests and ignoble. The teaching of Philippine history should precisely be strengthened to ensure that our people, especially our youth, to separate truth from falsehood," CEAP said.

"The closest appointee claim that the Marcos burial is meant as a 'magnanimous act of reconciliation' which will strengthen the bonds of unity and love among the Filipino people." But let us remember the words of St. Augustine: 'Christ is to be celebrate for justice withheld.' Let justice be the test that binds us as a nation," it said.

Philip C. Salom

Japan evacuees move to 5-star hotel

From page A1

city, charging 320 yen for breakfast and 800 yen for lunch and dinner. Kyodo said, adding residents will not be charged for their stay.

Due for demolition

The 40-story hotel, once a favorite haunt of celebrities and celebrities, closed in March after 91 years in business. It is due for demolition in July, meaning those who live here will have to leave again soon.

"I'm feeling anxious as I don't know what'll happen in the future but I feel grateful that I can sleep on a futon," Kyodo quoted Daisuke Ono, an evacuee from Fukushima prefecture, as saying.

Tens of thousands of people across Japan remain in temporary shelters following the March 11 quake-tsunami that destroyed large swaths of Japan's northeast coast.

Thousands have also been forced to evacuate from homes because of radiation around the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, where workers are battling to bring under control reactors under control.

AFP

Pa's $1,000 to pay for info on missing son

From page A1

"He told me 'Dad, we are going to Australia. We are being invited,'" recalled Gregorio.

That was the last time he would hear from Jonel's voice, due to the call.

"We are disappointed with the response. If he's dead, where is the body?" Gregorio said in a second interview.

"I'm 83 years old, I want justice for my son," he said.

2 factions

Gregorio began searching for Jonel after the First Eden Disciple Prayer uprising on 1986 that brought down the former President Marcos and installed to power Corazon Aquino, Marcos's widow and the mother of the present day President Aquino.

His inquiries with the Army group and through his connections in the military have yielded nothing.

He said he had sought out former Sen. Agapito "Butz" Aquino, Marcos's brother and a founding member of Atom.

"Butz told me that Jonel had split into two factions. One headed by Gregorio and the another one. He said it became difficult to control the group," Gregorio said.

He said Butz's explanation tended to jibe with the statements that Jonel had made in the last telephone conversation with his father.

"He was said that the military and Philippine Constabulary soldiers were arresting Atom members and activists, that's why they had to go into hiding," Gregorio said.

Revenge on the son

Gregorio, who is a lawyer, believes his son was abducted by agents of Marcos' Armed Forces chief, Gen. Fabian Ver, in retaliation for an interview that he (the father) had given a US journalist in which he blamed Ver for Aquino's assassination.

"I learned from my contacts in the AFP that Ver was out to get me. They could not get me because I was in the US, so they took their revenge on my son," said Gregorio, a former deputy commander of the 1st Air Division at the Villamor Air Base.

Disgusted by the corruption and the military's involvement in the assassination of Aquino, Gregorio took early retirement in December 1985. In 1986, he migrated with his family to the US for a "better life." But Jon, the third child, opted to return to the Philippines after only a few months in the US, to work in the anti-Marcos movement.

In the US, Gregorio linked up with the Movement for a Free Philippines (MFP), the anti-Marcos group led by Raul Manglapus and another ex-diplomat, Bonifacio Gillego.

According to Gregorio, he gave the MFP some information he had about the Aquino assassination. The MFP contacted journalist Phil Bronstein of the *San Francisco Examiner*.

Ver plan for Ninoy

In July 1985, Bronstein wrote a story about Ver's plan to divert the plane that would carry Ninoy Aquino, who had decided to end his US exile and return to Manila, to a military airbase. The plan included the dispatch of two Air Force fighter jets to intercept the China Air Lines plane carrying Ninoy and the takeover by Philippine Air Force officers of the US Air Force radio receiver Clark Air base.

The story, which was also published by the alternative paper in Manila, strengthened the public's suspicion that the Marcos regime was behind the assassination of Ninoy as he stepped out of the CAL plane at the Manila International Airport on Aug. 21, 1983.

MYSTERY MAN Gregorio Jr. shown in his 1980s photo and passport

Another Pinay nabbed for drug trafficking

By DJ Yap

A FILIPINO woman was arrested by Indonesian authorities at a Central Java airport after her arrival from Kuala Lumpur for allegedly attempting to smuggle more than one kilogram of heroin.

The arrest came days after Indonesia executed Filipino drug trafficker and despite repeated warnings by government officials in Philippine media urging abroad not to carry packages from people or accept offers from drug traffickers.

The Inspectorate of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said the woman was nabbed on April 3 by Indonesian Customs and Excise Officers at the Adi Soemarmo Airport in Solo, Central Java at by 1,193 kilograms of class 1 heroin were found in her possession.

$5,000 fee

The DFA said the woman was allegedly paid $5,000 by an unidentified drug syndicate to carry the heroin to Indonesia.

The woman flew from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on board to the Soto flight, the DFA said.

It is consistent, the DFA said against anti-drugs trafficking," the DFA said.

"It is undertaking comprehensive and proactive measures to address the drug-trafficking issue and to prevent the further victimization of Filipinos by unscrupulous drug syndicates," it added.

In most Muslim countries, including Indonesia, drug trafficking is punishable by death, the DFA said.

Last month, three Filipino drug couriers died by lethal injection in China after the Chinese government rejected appeals for clemency by Philippines officials.

Appeal to privacy

The family of Elizabeth Batara, one of those executed in China, appealed to media on Friday to respect their privacy while they grieved her death.

In a statement issued through the DFA, the family also requested their humanitarian assistance with the Philippine justice system, saying it only benefitted the "heinous and well known personalities."

"On behalf of my entire family, we would like to request all media to refrain from committing to during this traumatic time. We dread to stay closing as a family. This constant harassment is even more intrusive of our privacy," said Batara's sister, 'ShingChing'.

The family insisted that it would not allow the media to publish photos of Batara and to his relatives related to her burial.

"We want to move on, we want to let her go even if we didn't gain any justice for her. Please kindly convey to all concerned, especially to media to locate and to force undue intrusion," the statement read.

Ladlad marks first year of legal victory, honors SC

By Jerome Aning

THE COMELEC first officially recognized lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender political party, the Ladlad Chosenly representation, Geo of the Gianni Party-list, celebrated Friday the anniversary of a Supreme Court decision that allowed the group to participate in last year's legislative elections.

Ladlad officials and members converged at Plaza Lawton in Ermita, Metro Manila to honor 12 justices who voted to nullify a ruling by the Commission on Elections (Comelec) that barred their group from fielding a candidate for a seat in the House of Representatives through the party-list system.

Ladlad chair Benny Bonalbo said the party was busy expanding its ranks and becoming an outreach program in order that the group could win House representation after the 2013 mid-term polls.

The 13th card

The group marched to the Supreme Court building and delivered 12 thank you cards to the justices. A 13th card was received for retired Chief Justice Reynato Puno, who headed the tribunal when the decision was rendered April 8, 2010.

"We thank you for applying the Constitution and law, unprejudiced by public opinion, and confident in the knowledge that our democracy is resilient enough to withstand vigorous debate. That very decision made and to all the members and donors," Ladlad's lawyer said.

"We thank you for upholding equal protection and for recognizing our interests in participating in the party-list system on the same basis as other marginalized and underrepresented sectors. The recognition gave us dignity and self-esteem," it added.

Pink balloons

The group also celebrated 31 pink balloons printed with messages saying "Happy Birthday" to the party and thanking a "dog killed" Supreme Court.

The tribunal had reversed a decision by a Comelec majority to withhold accreditation to the group which it said promoted immorality, was offensive to established religious and might corrupt the youth.

Bonalbo said the group was determined to improve its campaign in 2013 because it failed to get a seat in 2013. It managed to get some 114,000 votes, placing 58th among the 187 groups that contested party-list seats.

Bonalbo noted that in 2010, Protestant churches backed Ladlad, while the Roman Catholic hierarchy gave the party condemned approval.

Roman Catholic canon law regards homosexual desires as "intrinsically disordered" and homosexual acts as an egregious sexual sin, like and chastity. The church, however, condemns unjust discrimination against homosexuals.

PRESIDENT AQUINO (L) smiles after awarding the Outstanding Employer Award to Geraldine Alger, Switzerland's executive vice president for human resources. Looking on are Trade Secretary Greg Domingo (left) and Peza Director General Lilia de Lima

BPO firm top employer for 3rd year, installed in Hall of Fame

SUTHERLAND Global Services Philippines, a multinational tech outsourcing company, has been named 2011 Outstanding Employer for the third straight year by the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (Peza).

The award latrobe Sutherland in the Hall of Fame, a distinction reserved only for a handful of companies which have won the award three times, the company said in a press statement.

Sponsored by Peza in cooperation with the Philippine Employers Association, the Outstanding Employer Award is given to organizations that generated the most number of jobs, held high regard for the welfare of its workers, and maintained harmony between labor and management.

In his congratulatory message to the Philippines' inexperienced team, chairman and CEO Dilip Sitlink said, "To win the prestigious award year after year is a very strong testament to the dedication of our employees in the Philippines, who have all helped in making this happen."

Starting with 150 employees in 2005, Sutherland now employs more than 13,000 ,a growth of over 8,600 percent However, the secret of success of a business enterprise is not just the quantity of employees but more importantly the quality of employment.

Commenting on the company's rapid expansion in the Philippines, Mr. Sitlink said,

"Since our launch in 2005, our operations in the Philippines have become a strategic component of our global service delivery model. The country's favorable economic environment, business-friendly government policies and, above all, the technically skilled and committed workforce has been driving forces in our ability to rapidly scale our operations in two several business in the country," said Sitlink.

Sutherland Philippines has also received the Philippine Quality Award (PQA) by commitment to quality management during the 11th PQA Conference this year, conducted annually by the Department of Trade and Industry. Sutherland said it is the first and only BPO in the last 10 years to have been given this prestigious award.

Established in 1998, Sutherland Global Services is a multi-national technology-enabled BPO service company providing integrated platform-based and analytics-enabled business-to-be support solutions for major industry verticals and global industry leaders. Headquartered in Rochester, N.Y., Sutherland is one of the world's largest pure-play BPO companies employing over 30,000 professionals across 25 global delivery centers and business operations located in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Colombia, India, the Philippines, the United Arab Emirates, Bulgaria, Egypt, and the United Kingdom.

Headquartered in Rochester, New York, Sutherland employs over 30,000 professionals across 25 global delivery centers and business operations located in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Colombia, India, the Philippines, the United Arab Emirates, Bulgaria, Egypt, and the United Kingdom.

EMOTIONAL. ACCUSATORY Willie Revillame emits sadness (Ruben Salvador)

Willie: Don't pulverize me ("Wag n'yo kong dikdikin")

From page A1

television board and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), as well as the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines.

As a result of the controversy, five major competitors—Jollibee Foods Corp., Del Monte Pacific Ltd., Procter & Gamble Philippines, Unilever Philippines and CBO Foodphoria Inc.—have pulled out their ads in the show.

"I was deeply hurt by the statement released by Procter & Gamble and Mang Inasal, to Jollibee franchisee. It was no personal," Pro-Show said.

"I am thankful to the executives of Unilever, who sat down with me to discuss the issue. They said that to be fair to me, they are suspending advertisements in all low grade shows across all networks," he said.

Just "helping the poor"

Revillame said the show would take a two-week break.

But he hinted that it might not come back. "I will not mind the Holy Week. I will think hard about whether I will return to the industry. I hope you will pray for the program to be back on air."

He added, "I am willing to give up my salary for the sake of the show. I'll put it for the poles. We can still run the show even if advertisers have abandoned us. We will get help from the [network] president [Dr. E. Espinosa], from Manny Pangilinan (TV5 chief). Even if we lose profit."

Revillame called on government leaders who had accused him of commiting "acts of child abuse" not to constantly look for someone to blame but instead help make a difference.

He said that while he had not wished to disclose it, he had donated P500,000 "just on the 3 episodes Wilpinoy produced in Lebanon could finally get back home."

He also said that he was "taking care" of the 6-year-old's family.

"I tell them every day just to check on them. That's what you should do, GMA5. There are a lot of Boys like Jiezl out there," he said.

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Editor Abelardo S. Vhersby

Lea leads protest vs barangay ordinance

Urges scrapping of prescription on contraceptives

By Tina G. Santos

BROADWAY star Lea Salonga and former Health Secretary Esperanza Cabral on Saturday led residents of Barangay Ayala Alabang, host to an upscale residential village in Muntinlupa City, in a demonstration calling for the scrapping of a local ordinance requiring prescription for contraceptives.

Some 500 residents, mostly clad in yellow, gathered outside the Ayala Alabang main gate at the corner of Madrigal Avenue at around 9 a.m. to protest Barangay Ordinance 1, which bans the promotion and purchase of any kind of contraceptive within the barangay without a doctor's prescription.

Cabral hit barangay officials who were behind the enactment of the ordinance for apparently not acting on it even after a probe by consultants was held last March 19.

Under Barangay Ordinance No. 1, also known as the "Protection of the Unborn Child Ordinance of 2011," a person who wants to buy contraceptives from stores in the area should first present a prescription from a doctor.

LBA, NIA

QC eyes sanctions on parents who fail to enroll kids

By Julie M. Aurelio

A QUEZON city committee is preparing sanctions on parents who fail to send their children to school.

The measure, filed by councilor Ranulfo Ludovica, imposes a fine of P5,000 or imprisonment for one year on parents found guilty of neglecting to enroll their children.

Ludovica said it was important to make the enrollment of kids in basic education mandatory to ensure their welfare.

"Providing education is one of the primordial duties and obligations of parents to their children," he said.

He also invoked Republic Act (RA) No. 7610 or the Special Protection of Children Against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act, "no child shall be deprived of formal or nonformal education."

The Department of Education has a system of free public education in the elementary and high school levels, enabling even poor parents to send their youngsters to school.

Should parents neglect or refuse to send their children to school, Ludovica said they may contribute to the rise in the number of out of school youths and expose them to abuse, exploitation, discrimination, etc.

He added that lax guidance of parents can also lead to children being easily lured into drug addiction, criminal activities, child prostitution, and other social ills.

Tiñga election protest back to square one

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE ELECTION protest filed by Tagaig City mayoralty candidate Jamie Tiñga against incumbent Mayor Lani Cayetano is again "back to square one," a ranking Commission on Elections official said yesterday.

Comelec Commissioner Rene Sarmiento said the Comelec first division will review the order of the poll body's second division, which previously had dismissed the case, in reviews 2771 consolidated ballot boxes currently under the custody of the Tagaig city treasurer.

He said the first division decided to do this after complaints from the mayor's camp that the case was being "prioritized."

"Well, (it's) back to square one in the sense that should we follow the second division order or review it or should we put it on hold," Sarmiento said.

"We will look into the arguments of Cayetano asking why we were prioritizing (the case). So, the first division will weigh the pros and cons," he said.

"We have to be fair/reasonable both parties will be happy ... We have to be fair/reasonable in the resolution in this case of Tagaig which is a very controversial case," he added.

The case was transferred to the first division, which Sarmiento chairs, after the Cayetano camp questioned the impartiality of second division chair, Elias Yusoph, due to his perceived links to a powerful politician from the Tiñga side.

Another commissioner from the second division, Lucenito Tagle, also earlier voluntarily inhibited himself from the case.

"To prevent further imputations of dubious character as to the impartiality of whatever ruling of this commission as regards to the case or for avoiding in the obtaining of the integrity of this august body, the Commission hereby resolves to inhibit this ... case to the First Division," said the Comelec en a resolution earlier this week.

Comelec chair Sixto Brillantes then said the transfer of the case does not mean that the reviewal order would be recalled.

Sarmiento said the first division would take Brillantes' statement into consideration in their review of the second division order.

LEA SALONGA (center) speaks at a protest action outside the gate of Ayala Alabang against the Barangay Council of Ayala Alabang's proposed ordinance restricting sex education and the sale of contraceptives.

Lea leads protest vs barangay ordinance

From page A11

The city council, however, reminded it to the barangay level, citing some provisions that may seem as an infringement of human rights. It also asked the barangay officials, through a letter, to clarify certain provisions.

Revised version

In a text message to Inquirer yesterday, Grace Saroma, public information officer of Muntinlupa City, said the city government was still waiting for the barangay council to submit the revised version of the ordinance.

He added that the measure must first be approved by the city council and Mayor Aldrin San Pedro before it can take effect.

"Until now, they have not done anything about it. I think they have given them enough time within which to act one way or another," Cabral said (Saroma in an interview. "So now we want to force them to act on it already—either they say it's totally dead or they want to push through with it—so we could also act accordingly."

"Of course we want the ordinance really scrapped," she stressed, adding that their next move would be to ask the city council to act on the controversial measure with finality.

Cabral said that the barangay council should withdraw the ordinance because "it is abusive, it is ignorant of the law as well as it also usurps the power of other agencies. She stressed that sex is a matter of the people and should not be legislated.

Salonga, on the other hand, stressed that the ordinance slights on the autonomy of a couple's personal life.

No sense

"Me and my family chose to live here because we want some privacy, we want peace in five years and fifty. But when this arbitrary curse ... it infringes the rights of the residents. It absolutely made no sense," she said.

"What, my life is now going to be a matter of public record? With this ordinance, every time I go to a pharmacy and decide to buy a pack of condoms or contraceptives, it has to be a matter of record because I would have to register my name and declare that this was what I bought. Di pati kami namin ng family ano Aray (may paltod ang kwa kwa ko di ko (What do others care on what medications I bought?)"

Outraged

In her blog recently, Salonga wrote she was furiously outraged upon reading the ordinance.

"What right, constitutional or otherwise, does another human being, plus an entire barangay have to what I practice in the privacy of my bedroom? No one has a say in how my husband and I express ourselves sexually, or what contraceptive measures we decide to employ, if any. Period. I'm not running for office, I'm not employed in government or in politics, I'm not a public figure. I intend being told what to do, in general ... even more so when it comes to something as personal and as private as this," said (of her blog entry read.

Some members of various reproductive health (RH) advocacy groups also came to support the residents' protest action.

Then curtail placards bearing the messages "Respect our right to family planning," "Keep your theology out of my biology" "Keep your bigos out of our bedrooms," and "Separate Church and State," among others.

Other known personalities who joined the demonstration included Carlos Celdran, a sought-after livewire on gay pride and reproductive health rights advocacy who has been promoting the Church's lobbying against the RH bill.

Although the demonstration and their protest has nothing to do with the controversial RH bill, most of those who joined the demonstration said they are in favor of some aspects.

Ateneo de Manila University, Sociology Ayala Alabang chair Alfred Xerxes Hangco Jr. maintained that the ordinance was "inconsistent with the Constitution."

At the same time, he clarified that the measure had yet to be implemented.

Makati sets more services for elderly

By Tina G. Santos

SENIOR citizens of Makati City can expect continuous pampering from the city government after it allocated P126 million for the various programs and services for the elderly.

Mayor Jejomar Erwin Binay and the members of the city council, during the budget hearing, said the city government has to be generous in their significant contributions to the city's development.

"Compared to what they have done for the city and for the country as a whole, these benefits are but small rewards. We cannot thank them enough for instilling the youth to become upright and responsible citizens. Neither can we forget the services they rendered to the people during the events of private workers during their prime," Binay said.

Of the P1,25.7 million budget for senior citizens programs this year, the city has allotted P14 million for free movies, P9.4 million for the senior citizens' Christmas gift and golden wedding anniversaries, almost P1 million for "Lakbay Joys," P96 million for the cash gifts under the BLU card, and P4.5 million for "Sa senyor Citizen."

Makati is known for its many innovative programs for some 56,000 senior citizens. Among them are the free and unlimited privilege to watch movies in all cinemas in the city, which was pioneered in Makati in 2001; the "Harana kay Lolo at Lola," the delivery of free birthday cakes and wedding anniversary cakes accompanied with a serenade, and the "Lakbay Saya ni Lolo at Lola," which takes Makati's elderly on local tours.

The city government also provides holders of the BLU card an annual cash gift of P1,000, which is given in May and December each year. Also, beneficiaries of cardholders will receive P1,000 as additional senior citizen gift during their death.

The remaining budget has been allotted for burial assistance, P4 million; Elderly Filipino Week celebration, P200,000; Christmas Flow Wear celebration, P80,000; medical supplies and maintenance of 309 Felicidad by Elderly Center, P360,000.

Death inside Quiapo theater

A 44-YEAR-OLD regular movie theater patron died late Friday afternoon inside the cinema he frequented in Quiapo, Manila.

Ernesto Nuna, of 9 Bluemoon Street in San Juan City, died apparently of a heart attack at the 2nd floor lobby of the Rizal Theater along Quezon Boulevard in Quiapo.

PO2 Jaquino Espinosa, of the Manila Police District (MPD) homicide section, said Dan Bona was identified through his mobile phone.

Nuna and Bona approached two moviegoers minutes before the incident, apparently to ask help. The two told police Nuna suddenly fainted and was sweating profusely.

They told Bona to sit on the theater lobby bench, but he grasped for breath after doing so and fell unconscious.

When they checked his pulse, Nuna was dead already. They immediately reported the incident to the theater management. Jeannette I. Andrade

Barangay official shot dead by bike-riding hitman

A BARANGAY official was gunned down yesterday morning while two others were injured in a shooting spree at a neighborhood in Quezon City.

Police said the gunman did not have any spent shells behind that could serve as evidence.

"The gunman used a paper or plastic bag to cover his gun, which may have caught every spent shell," according to case investigator PO2 Jaime Jimenez.

Jimenez identified the victim as Henry Capellan, 62, a resident of Area 5 in Villa Beatriz Subdivision in Barangay Old Balara, and a tipong tagapanguna. He died at the spot at around 7 a.m. after the gunman shot him in neighboring Barangay Holy Spirit.

The wounded were identified as Edgar Cabalza, 37, who got shot in his lower left abdomen, and Rogelio Baltazar, 66, who got wounded in the right leg.

Baltazar told police that he was just sitting in front of a house along Kalayaan Street when he saw the gunman firing shots at Capellan.

The assailant then boarded a motorcycle driven by another man and quickly escaped.

Police learned that the victim also operated a money-lending business and said the attack might be related to it. Acha M. Astrolio

PUBLIC SAFETY SENIOR EXECUTIVE COURSE INDUCTION PROGRAM

All Batangas legal minds Jones Maze (left) inducts the officers of the Public Safety Senior Executive Course 2010-17 during induction ceremonies held recently at the National Police College, Matikling, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. Inducted were (from left) Pilipit Haris B Fara, class president; Pilipit Jose Malancio C. Hortoza jr., vice president; Pilipit Michelle A. Arbas, secretary; Pilipit Marilou G Medina, treasurer; Cdr Lea L. Favello (PCG), auditor; and Pilipit Elmo R Moreno, press relations officer. Pilipit Flo Pimang, the class warden, welcomed the audience, while the commandant, Pilipit Ed Pores, introduced the class members. Comedian Gary Lising provided entertainment during the program with his jokes.

MetroBriefs

St. Scholastica sets golden jubilee rites

ST. SCHOLASTICA'S Academy Marikina will celebrate its Golden Jubilee this year with the theme, "50 Years of Blessings from Educational Excellence." Quoting the Psalms, the school aims to "proclaim to the world: The SSAM Alumnae Association will undertake fund-raising activities mainly for the benefit of the school's scholars. On May 8, SSAM will host SCHOTAPUN, a fun run event featuring 10K, 5K, 2K and 1K (Little Guru) events. Proceeds will go directly to the scholarship fund. Those interested may register at St. Scholastica's Academy at the Marikina Sports Center or call 682 1600/0999 or 0928 511 2329. On July 17, there will be Miss Platinum and Mr. Golden Jubilee. On July 17, from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., there will be a Grand Alumni Homecoming Gala Night to celebrate the 50 Golden Years of Benedictine Education. The evening's highlight will be "Voluna Got Talent," a fundraising talent show to be participated by various SSAM batches. It will also showcase 50 Proud Voluna Awardees and Golden Jubilarians. This event will be hosted by Amy Perez and Bing Loyzaga also the St. Scholastica's Band.

Forum on helmet act postponed

THE FORUM sponsored by the San Juan Civilian Volunteers (SJCV) regarding the motorcycle and helmet act or the Republic Act No. 10054 will be postponed until further notice. According to engineer Wenceslao Vicente Sy, president and founder of SJCV, the organization of The Forum with the Philippine National Police Communication who was supposed to bring the proposed implementing rules and regulations for the bill couldn't attend the forum to present the document, due to health reasons. Figaro Sulit

Cream dory livelihood program

EMAELLYSTINE City Mayor Benhur Abalos cooks a meal out of the Pangasinan fish, commonly known as cream dory, during a recent livelihood training seminar held for indigents of Barangay Pilarcitos. The participants, under the supervision of chef Chaela Violago, were taught how to prepare and cook the fish in different ways such as stinging na relyo, adobo and sweet 'n' sour. The skin of the fish was deep fried and toasted to make chicharon. The Pangasinan fish is becoming a hit among high-end restaurants and supermarkets in Metro Manila.

the nursing workforces for development is the next frontier for development banking and fi nance.

Commission on Filipinos Overseas chair Imelda Nicolas

GLOBAL Pinoy

John Monica Ferla

This section is dedicated to Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories, in construction sites and in the homes of the world to secure a better life for their families. These are their stories.

Who's the 'tweet-est' nurse in the world?

HUMBLE EDUCATOR Ronnielee Pagtakhan won a Twitter Shorty Award for the nurse category

By Yayoi Sulit

Best nursing tweet: I'm a nurse. An educator. A writer. A friend. A student. A son. I care, I love, I respect, I want to touch lives and I want to be a good role model for future nurses

AFTER naming Manila into the "texting capital of the world," Pinoys are now making their mark in the Twitter world of short, real-time social media content.

Ronnielee Pagtakhan, a registered nurse and a teacher at Centro Escolar University (CEU) and Mapua Institute of Technology , was named winner of Twitter's international Shorty Award in the nurse category at ceremonies at the Times Center in New York on March 28.

A Forever United States-based nurse, Ronnielee's feat for first place with American Shalliese Browning, the founder of YourNurseInOn.com.

Another tweeting Pinoy, sexy actress Bangel Landes landed second place in the Actress category.

New York-based designers Ami Li, who Filipinos know from her years in ABS-CBN's Pinoy Big Brother Teen Clash edition, won first place in the fashion category.

Twitter invited nominations for dozens of categories. A panel of judges then decided who among the so many popular would be the winner.

"Surprise also (I was surprised). Wow it's a hang for me," said 25-year-old Ronnielee in an interview with Inquirer.

Ronnielee's winning tweet was: "I'm a nurse, I'm an educator, a son, a friend, and I want to inspire nurses and nursing students."

"I never expected to win," said Ronnielee, still sounding quite overwhelmed, even with the sudden requests for her interviews from the big TV networks and other media.

"I feel so proud that I was able to represent the country ... When I started I didn't know it was that serious, that it could let a chance for us Filipinos to be heard, for the world to realize that Filipinos are world class," he added.

He was invited to go to the United States to personally accept his award, but understandably his visa had expired.

But he said his acceptance speech within the required 140 characters or less tweet limit: "Thankful to all the nurses in the world. Let us celebrate Nursing around the world. The caring, compassion, love from nursing. We all deserve this!" #shortsy"

Born and raised in Tagaytay, Ronnielee said he was no stranger to the hard life and strives in he self-supporting and independent.

He initially wanted to be a doctor but eventually opted to be a nurse. "Graduates of medical degree can't earn money right away, and even get a part-time job," he explained.

Another outlook

According to Ronnielee, he wants to change the way the people perceive nursing nowadays. He aims to remove the impression that nursing is all about going abroad and earning tons of money.

"I think (as) taught as pros (Nursing isn't about money), it should be with passion, your advocacy," he said in a mixture of English and Filipino.

He said he wanted to work, to help propagate "the true essence of the profession."

"As a nurse, you'll feel that it's truly rewarding to care for people. That's my outlook, and I just want to share my perspectives and enlighten people in one way or another, he said, explaining why he went into teaching and is active in social media.

Ronnielee teaches at the Mapua and CEU and is also a reviewer for nursing board exams. He said he wants these opportunities to not just educate future nurses academically, but to impart to them the importance of nursing.

"The feeling of giving attention and tending to the needs of the sick is a rewarding experience," he said.

He still plans to go back to the United States to practice nursing, but right now, he's enjoying his career as a teacher.

"He enjoy ko...nagpa-panalo ko na siya (Smacking)." Panalo is good of it as well.

He seems to enjoy almost everything he does. He is also a coauthor of a nursing test book. "Bitin, ang gusto lang pahingaan. Ano ka? Author (Doesn't that sound great, to say you are an 'author')."

He's very funny and a happy-go-lucky person, and seems to have a knack for making serious discussion seem like a chat session.

Handling discrimination

Filipinos, he said, should never be ashamed of being who they are. He said he never felt discriminated against in the US because of race. But when students ask him to comment about those who have experienced it, he says, "I believe you just have to present yourself as someone responsible, using hindi ka kahatiran hanggang sa wala kang kahihiyan (you are not inferior as long as you have no shame)."

He's very happy

The WORLD

Edita Laverne B. Suico

Lack of data heightens Japan's nuclear crisis

TOKYO—Nearly one month after Japan's devastating nuclear accident, atomic-energy experts, regulators and politicians around the world are still puzzling over a basic question: How much danger is still posed by the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant?

That depends to a considerable extent on how hot the uranium fuel rods at the power plant remain, and whether fuel has escaped its containment, or might still do so. Yet, even though Tokyo Electric Power Co. says about what is really happening inside the reactors because some areas remain far too radioactive for workers to approach, and some instruments have malfunctioned.

The country of data and the conflicting estimates of what the available information really means have prompted a series of confusing analyses and a social rift between officials in Japan and those overseas, and even between one member of Congress and the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Earlier this week, the government speculated that the nuclear fuel in the core of one of the reactors, at the power plant had probably melted from its high pressure water, its most important protective barrier. If that proves accurate, it would raise the prospect of containing fuel leaks and high levels of radioactive releases that would vastly complicate containment and the cleanup.

But Japanese officials said there was no evidence of a compromised pressure vessel, and they wondered why they were reading about this in newspapers.

Nuclear fuel leak

"If they have a concern, they should inform us," said Hirotaka Akamatsu, a spokesperson for Japan's Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, after that American crosstown newspapers reported the alarm over a possible nuclear fuel leak at the plant's No. 2 reactor, closely corresponding to Japanese accounts. "They didn't say such concerns to us directly," Morita said.

A senior Foreign Ministry official, meanwhile, accused the foreign media on Thursday of exaggerating the threat posed by the power plant and the radiation spreading from it. Radiation fears are hurting sales of Japanese products abroad.

Who is pressed right in the scientific debate has great repercussions for how and when the nuclear crisis might be brought under control, and the potential implications if assumptions prove wrong.

From the start, there have been differences, with America's top authorities expressing a more pessimistic view than their Japanese counterparts.

The United States has advised Americans to stay at least 80 km away from the Fukushima Daiichi plant. Japanese officials evacuated residents within a 19-km radius, and Tokyo since said they are considering expanding the evacuation zone.

An assessment in late March by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said that hydrogen explosions at the plant might have blown parts of the roof of nuclear fuel from the reactors' spent fuel pools up to a mile away. The Tokyo Electric Power Co., the operator of the Fukushima plant, says that while the pools remain exposed at the most damaged plants, the fuel remains safely inside.

Mounting stresses

US officials are also concerned that mounting pressure placed on the reactors' containment structures as they fill up with radioactive water used in emergency cooling make the structures vulnerable to rupture in an aftershock from the 9.0-magnitude March 11 earthquake. Japanese officials have played down that concern, and on Friday they said a sizable aftershock that struck overnight had caused no further damage at the plant.

The rift also highlights the difficulty of a debate in which both sides are forced to rely on classic possible situations with little access to crucial readings from inside the reactors.

Much of the assessment of the nuclear crisis is based on the reactors has been damaged, either by explosions in the early days of the crisis or by intense radiation since then. Damage to the reactors, as well as high radiation, has hampered efforts by engineers to make detailed assessments.

The Pentagon has provided airborne surveillance drones that use little neutron ground-level radiation at the plant. It is possible that American officials are basing their analyses on data they have collected independently, though Obama administration officials say they have shared their data with their Japanese counterparts. *New York Times/Asia Service*

Syria rocked by largest, bloodiest protests to date

CAIRO—Dozens of communities across Syria erupted in protest on Friday in what activists said were by far the largest and bloodiest demonstrations against the iron rule of President Bashar al-Assad.

Opposition leaders said the protests numbered in the hundreds of thousands. While that number could not be independently confirmed, the size of the protests and their level of coordination suggest that Syria's fragmented opposition movement is reaching new levels of cohesiveness and organization.

In the southern city of Daraa, where the protest began three weeks ago after a group of teenagers was arrested for writing antigovernment graffiti, security forces opened fire on demonstrators. A human rights activist said 21 deaths had been confirmed, but that figure was likely to rise. Two opposition websites said the death toll was as high as 100.

The Interior Ministry reported that armed groups had fired on security forces in Daraa, killing 19 police officers and members of security forces, in addition to several civilians, the government news agency Sana reported. It was the first substantial claim of deaths made by the government.

The numbers of dead on either side were difficult to verify. Foreign news media have not been permitted to travel outside Damascus, the capital, and state security forces have cordoned off the towns and suburbs where the largest gatherings were held.

There were also protests on Friday in Damascus, in a suburb where at least 15 protesters were killed by security forces last Friday, and in Banias to the far east.

Amnesty Mondial, a London-based political activist who is in frequent touch with protesters in Daraa and other cities, said that the protest movement had gained enormous momentum and confidence over the past week. Though Syria lacks a network of publishing houses like Tahrir Square in Egypt, he said, he estimated that across Syria, total numbers of protesters might add up to hundreds of thousands.

He said another activist said that as many as 100 people might have been killed in clashes between protesters and state security forces in Daraa, saying fears that the government would be trying to make an example of Daraa, as it did of Hama in 1982.

"Today in Daraa, it was a massacre," Mondial said in a phone interview. "What happened is that after Friday prayers, the marchers started to chant, 'President Freedom' and security forces opened fire. When the protesters tried to collect the dead and wounded, the security forces opened fire again." *New York Times/News Service*

Libya rebels repel assault on Misrata; prospects of Gadhafi being ousted fade

TRIPOLI—Libyan rebels said on Friday they had repulsed a government assault on the besieged western port city of Misrata and a spokesman said five people were killed in the fighting.

Prospects faded that Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi would be ousted by the armed revolt and Nato leaders acknowledged the limits of their air power, which has caused rather than hindered a military stalemate.

Medical officials in the eastern city of Benghazi said they had received the bodies of six supporters of Gadhafi killed in the fighting.

Western diplomats and government sources said Gadhafi's tactics of sheltering his armor in civilian areas had reduced the effects of air supremacy and apologized for a "friendly fire" incident on Thursday in which rebels said five fighters were killed.

Misrata, a hour-coastal outpost in the west of the country, has been under siege by Gadhafi's forces for weeks. On Friday, rebels said they had pushed back an assault on the eastern flank of the coastal city after three more hard days.

A rebel spokesperson said government troops had advanced on the heavily-populated Tripoli district in the city known as Tajoura by the time of Obama's, where families are reunited together in the last remaining safe district.

"The attack from the east has been repelled now and the (pro-Gadhafi) forces have been pushed back," rebel spokesperson Hassan al-Misrati told Reuters by telephone.

A Misrata resident called Ghanem told Reuters: "Medics at the hospital told us that five people were killed today and 18 others were wounded. We were at the hospital and we talked to medics."

Nato air strikes hit weapons depots belonging to Gadhafi's forces near the town of Tarhuna on Friday, a resident said.

"The depots are at least 35 km southeast of Tarhuna. We could see the buildings on fire on the distance," the resident said by phone.

The only active front in the war, along the Mediterranean coast around the eastern town of Brega and Ajdabiyah, has descended into a desultory stalemate with both sides making advances and then retreating behind secure lines.

On Friday, rebels at the command headquarters of Ajdabiyah, still intact after the friendly fire incident, fired from an artillery bombardment further west on regime government advances.

The head of US Africa Command, Gen. Carter Ham, said the conflict was entering a stalemate and it was unlikely the rebels would be able to fight their way into Tripoli.

Kathy Ingmo that air attacks on Gadhafi's forces would tip the balance in favor of the rebels had evaporated and Western leaders were emphasizing a political solution.

Nato Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen took a similar line on them on Friday. "There is no military solution only. We need a political solution," he said.

State spokesperson Dana Lamperis spoke of the difficulties facing officers pilots because of Gadhafi's tactics. "The last is they are using human shields and pushing ammunition to mosques and schools so it is very hard to pinpoint any military hardware without causing civilian casualties," she said. *Reuters*

REMIX IN RED A Libya rebel in the rebel-stronghold of Benghazi covers her face with Libya's former national flag, now used by rebels, during a Friday prayer on April 8. —

Pakistani boy apologizes for suicide mission

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN—A Pakistani boy who took part in a suicide mission that killed more than 40 people at a Sufi shrine sought forgiveness on Friday in a television interview from his hospital bed.

The boy, who police said is 15, was arrested after his lack of explosives failed to go off in Sunday's attack. He said he had been trained by militants close to the Afghan border, and that his handlers spoke of "more than 100 other boys going through the training."

In the attack on the Sufi shrine, at least two members suicide-ally detonated explosives, killing at least 41 people. The boy whose explosives didn't go off was arrested shortly after the explosion.

Police initially said he was unresponsive, and that he told them he wanted to "send them to hell."

However, in Friday's interview, he said he is "seeking forgiveness" from the families of those killed and wounded.

"I never knew that I was going to hurt Muslims. I learned it only after I failed," said the boy. "May Allah forgive me."

The boy's left arm was amputated as a result of injuries he sustained after he was shot by a guard. In Friday's interview, he spoke in softly while lying in bed. The source of what was left of his arm was bandaged.

The boy gave his name as Imran, though police initially identified him as Fida Hussain.

He said he spent two months training with four other boys in the town of Mir Ali in North Waziristan, a region that is under militant control. The Pakistan Army has yet to launch a offensive there despite American pressure, saying it does not have the resources. *AP*

Last-minute budget deal averts shutdown of US government

WASHINGTON—Congressional leaders and President Barack Obama headed off a chaotic shutdown of the government with just hours to spare on Friday night under a tentative budget deal that would cut $38 billion from current federal spending this year.

After days of tense negotiations and partisan quarreling, House Republicans came to preliminary terms with the White House and Senate Democrats over funding the government for the next six months, resolving a stubborn impasse that had threatened to disrupt federal operations around the country and globe.

Speaker John Boehner, who had pressed Democrats for cuts sought by members of his conservative majority in the House, announced the package of wide-spread spending reductions and policy provisions and won a positive response from his rank-and-file shortly before 11 p.m. Both Democrats and Republicans quickly hailed they had reached a declared settlement that would avert a costly shutdown of the government just hours before it was scheduled to begin at midnight.

Democrats said that under the agreement, the budget measure would not include provisions sought by Republicans to limit environmental regulations and to restrict financing for Planned Parenthood and other groups that provide abortion services. Democrats also prevented the passage of provisions included a measure to block federal financing in Washington.

"This has been a lot of discussion and a long fight," Boehner said as he exited the party meeting. "But are fought to keep government operating down because it really would have a harmful impact on economy. For job creators in our country."

Speaking from the White House after the Republican meeting, Obama said both sides had to give ground in reaching the bargain and some of the cuts that Democrats accepted "will be painful."

"Programs people rely on will be cut back," Obama said, adding that Americans had to begin to live within their means. "Needed infrastructure projects will be delayed."

The announcements capped a day of drama as lawmakers and members of the federal work force waited anxiously to see whether money for government agencies would run out at midnight.

"We didn't do it as this late hour for drama," Sen. Harry Reid, the Democratic majority leader, said. "We did it because it has been hard to settle at this point."

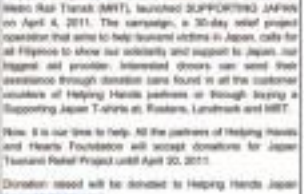
In the elaborate Republican session, according to people present in the room, Boehner described the plan as the best deal he could wring from Democrats and said the cuts—an estimate $38 billion in reductions—represented the "biggest real dollar spending cuts in American history."

Although both sides compromised, Republicans were able to force significant spending concessions from Democrats in exchange for passing a vote some of the vexing social policy fights that had held up the agreement.

Because of the need on put the compromise into legislative form, congressional leaders said the House and Senate would vote overnight to pass a stopgap measure financing the government through Thursday to prevent any break in the flow of federal dollars. The actual budget compromise would be considered sometime next week.

The House approved the stopgap measure by 17-29 p.m. and, moments after midnight, the Office of Management and Budget issued a memo saying normal government operations were back on track. *AP/NYT*

Helping Hands Supporting JAPAN



Helping Hands and Hearts Foundation, together with Rotarians, Shepherds, Landmark, Watson, Bayad Center and Metro Rail Transit (MRT), launched SUPPORTING JAPAN on April 4, 2011. The campaign, a 30-day relief project operation that aims to help tsunami victims in Japan, calls for all Filipinos to show our solidarity and support to Japan. Our biggest aid provider. Interested donors can send their assistance through donation cans found in all the customer counters of Helping Hands partners or through buying a Supporting Japan T-shirts at: Rustans, Landmark and MRT.

Note: It is our time to help. All the partners of Helping Hands and Hearts Foundation will accept donations for Japan Tsunami Relief Project until April 30, 2011.

Donation raised will be donated to Helping Hands Japan (www.hhahi.gov.jp)

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Woods threatens to crash Augusta party /A29

Sunday SPORTS

Editor Teddyboy S. Melendrez
Assistant Editor Francis T.J. Ochoa

5 PH pool long shots lead march to last 16

2-time world champ Alcano, Immonen exit

By Cedrill P. Tupas

ALLAN CUARTERO surely comes home to the Philippines. But he's definitely making the most out of his homecoming this week.

The 48-year-old became perhaps the first homecoming son back to back victories over foreign foes yesterday to become the first player to reach the Round of 16 of the Philippine Open Pool Championships at the SM Megamall Megatrade Hall in Mandaluyong.

Cuarto blanks also advanced to the last 16 after eliminating compatriots Marlon Manalo (9-3) and Domenderness Pulpul (9-2), joining Randil Gallego, who also moved into the next round with a tense 8-4 triumph over Japanese ace Naoyuki Oi.

Also making the last 16 were Lee Van Corteza, who overwhelmed Chinese-Taipei's Chang Jung Lin, 9-5, and unheralded Rolando dela Cruz, who bested Indonesia's Nonce Wenas, 9-4.

"I don't go home regularly just for tournaments," said Cuarteros, who has been based in Kuwait for the past nine years. "Hopefully, this tournament will be memorable for me," added the Antipas, Nort ace, whose best finish here was making the last 16 of the World 14.1 Ball Championship in 2009.

Giant upset

Kuwait's Abdullah al Nawaf made the biggest upset yesterday, bowling out Filipino Bernie Alcano and Jordan Immonen to also claim his place in the last 16 from the losers' bracket.

Alcano, a double world champion, fell in a 9-7 upset to al Nawaf, who actually belongs to the same club where Cuarteros plays.

The 20-year-old Nawaf bested Immonen, 9-6, just an hour after the young Filipino outlasted one of the tourna-

ALLAN Cuarteros, based in Kuwait for the past nine years, is hoping for a memorable finish.

ment's biggest upsets ...a 9-7 demotion of former world 9-ball and 10-ball champion Mika Immonen of Finland.

Precise with his positioning, Cuarteros started his climb from the losers' bracket by outlasting Wu Hao of China, 9-6, before stunning Qatar's Sultan Hussain, 9-4. Hussain had earned another Filipino, Bernardo Farao, 9-7, earlier in the day.

Still in hunt

Three other Filipinos remained in the hunt for the $30,000 top purse in the event sanctioned by the World Pool-Billiard Association.

Dennis Orcollo was to play Ralf Souquet of Germany last night for a spot in the last 16, while compatriots Antonio Lining and Jonaid Marcos were to clash for a spot in the next round.

Jeff De Luna bowed out yesterday losing to Malaysia's Nguyen Phuc Long, 6-0. Another highly rated Filipino, Robert Gomez, was eliminated Friday night, losing to Pulpul, 9-3.

Master van Boening, the former United States champion, was also shown the door by unheralded Wasi Bachtiarsyah of Indonesia, who came through with a thrilling 9-7 win in their losers bracket match.

In the women's division, Liu Chiou-ni China pulled off a 9-8 upset over World No. 1 Kim Su-yeong of Korea to make the last 16.

Also taking an early exit was 11-time world champion Allison Fisher, who yielded to Filipina's Marilu Piddi@4,1 7-9, Friday night.

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SM DEPARTMENT STORE

Kings, Aces eye s'final berths

By Jaime Navarro

GILAS MUST find a way to stop LA Tenorio while Rain Or Shine must get injured Fonacier back out of a funk.

Other wise, Alaska and Barangay Ginebra will decide the quarterfinal playoffs and complete the semifinal cast of the PBA Commissioner's Cup tonight.

The Kings, who escaped with a 91-89 win in their best-of-three opener with the Express after losing Thoss tipped to a Tenorio slam with almost no time left, go for the clincher at 5 p.m. duel at the Cuneta Astrodome.

Tenorio had another heated three-times pointers in the final two minutes and 41 seconds, erasing an eight-point Express advantage and forcing a tie with 26.3 ticks left before Thoss' freakish game-winner.

He solely ending to their own duel with the Chaos Dimsters is the target of the Gin Kings, who were dominant in a 108-91 win that saw Alaska falter big time with just 12 points.

"LA had a good feel about the game and put it in his hands," said Alaska coach Tim Cone. Friday. "I don't help her compare LA with Johnny Abarrientos. Johnny used to make those kinds of end-game decisions and now LA is doing them for us."

Abarrientos led the Aces to a grand slam in 1996 when he emerged as the league's Most Valuable Player.

"Hopefully we learn from it so we don't let that over," he said. Game 1, Until I let in Game 2 and before me, know it, we're out," said Cone, who blasted the Express to the Sun Miguel Beer team of old.

Danny Seigle, Dondon Hontiveros and Dorian Peña, who helped the Beermen capture a number of championships together, are now the leading figures for Alaska.

Yeo Brambell's consistency has been the key for the Kings, who limited Adams, a National Nine Jimmy Wet, to a mediocre-low-output on four of 11 shooting.

"We'd like to think of Game 2 as the start of the series again for us not to relax," said Barangay Ginebra coach Jong Dalisay.

MIKE CORTEZ (left) outfoxes Beerdash (right) all quarterback the charge of the Gin Kings tonight.

Sacramento franchise offered to MVP

AT FIRST, the text message hardly caught my attention.

"Do you know that MVP (Manny V. Pangilinan) is going into the NBA?" the message read.

I rubbed my eyes to see if I was reading the message right.

"NBA? Not TV5—is he IBC 13?" I texted back. To my knowledge, IBC is now MVP property, the reason why the PBA D-League is being aired in that network.

"Are you trying to tell me that MVP wants to acquire the rights to the NBA telecast?"

I told him, in one he will didn't know, that Solar Entertainment currently owns the telecast rights to the NBA games which are aired on Basketball TV and 5:00 (2:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.). I also told him that he also what the contract will expire.

I didn't know that MVP was interested in the NBA, but maybe he was planning to have the games on Channel 13 which, I heard, will be a sports-oriented channel.

***

He guy said he was not referring to the TV coverage of the world's most popular basketball league.

"MVP is planning to buy into the franchise of the Sacramento Kings. There are other interested parties, but the Kings management decided to offer it first to a Filipino businessman because they know of the Filipinos' passion for basketball. MVP is obviously interested in the offer," he said.

Now he got my full attention. I was having dinner with my family at the time and excused myself to call him up. I told him my full-scale mock-table to process the information I had just received.

"No bidding?" was all I could manage to say. It was too good to be true. "No final big phone, April 8 only do is long word!"

***

I never got back to my unfinished meal. I got to work immediately to confirm the report I got from not-shy blue.

From subsequent information I gathered, I learned that the Sacramento Kings' owners are in town to Manila recently bringing with them a complete financial portfolio which they presented to MVP.

"The business clues and the cash flow looked good," according to MVP's financial advisers, the Initial investment coming down to a ballpark figure of about $200 million, give or take a few millions.

And the BOD? "How gross are the risks of going into the NBA business?" I asked.

My source, a sports VIP, said MVP would expect some gains.

"The Sacramento Kings franchise is a cooperation and MVP will come in as a partner. He will of course take his majority stakes," he said.

If ever the deal pushes through, this will be the first time that an NBA franchise will be owned by an Asian.

This may also be the first time that a 58-year-player will take on NBA player.

***

"No, indeed. If this deal pushes through, the Filipinos may see some of their athletes' dreams coming true in this lifetime," said the source. "Not in mine."

As I write this, it is not for-looked that MVP and his sports group may be eminently discussing the possibilities. He could sit down with the Kings board to haggle for a Filipino-owned franchise or for trade-off relationship and a Filipino player or two in the team. After all, he owns it.

By now the Sacramento Kings representatives have returned to the California capital.

Logically, the next move would have to come from MVP's group, I presume.

Perhaps MVP's group will have to fly to Sacramento to inspect the assets.

A business lawyer told me that if and when MVP decides to buy into the NBA franchise, he will first have to sign a nondisclosure agreement, which means some of the parties can publicly disclose the contents of the sale—or whatever is executed by the parties.

MVP is expected to decide within the next six months.

IN HUDDLE

Beth Cuela

US Kids qualifying up at Orchard

THE ORCHARD Golf and Country Club will once again host the Philippine International Qualifier that will determine the country's representatives to the 2011 US Kids and Nike Golf World Championships.

A total of 20 spots for 10-age groups for boys and nine for girls are at stake in the May 20-24 event jointly promoted by the Philippine Junior Golf Foundation, Orchard and Great Depot Inc., the Philippine Junior Masters Golf Circuit.

This event is recognized by the US Kids Golf Foundation as an international open event enabling any player, regardless of nationality, residence, or origin, the opportunity to vie for slots in the World Championships scheduled in Pinehurst, North Carolina, in July and August this year.

"Our kids made us proud in last year's world championships," said GL Mendoza, Great Depot's brand manager for US Kids golf who attended last year's world joint in North Carolina.

The Tuesday Hour Group, Torquil Ang, Stella Peppe Steak, Philippine Airlines, McDonald's, Smart Communications, Golf Depot, Dynamic Sports and Lotioto Only Pioneer Insurance and PBM golf are the other backers of the event.

Application forms are available at the Orchard, the JGFF and the golf Depot outlets. For inquiries, please call Philippine Junior Golf Foundation at 8930500 and Great Depot, Inc. at 8420899.

PHILIPPINE AMATEUR

Top foreigners invade Open golf

TEMASEK Singaporean stars are set to fly in to snatch the next couple of days in battle the Philippines' best in the 2011 Philippine Amateur Championship Open set at the windy Lawgen layout as the Riviera in Silang, Cavite.

Named Rosemarie Tan, the final day fare for Thailand top Mariscella Cup win over the Philippines three weeks ago, leads a compact Thai delegation that will try to stem the tide away from defending champion Clyde Mondilla in the 72 hole event.

Gregory Yeo, Singapore's vengeance in 2009 and the backbone of his national squad, will also enter the event together with former Pizza Cup and stars Jerome Ng even as here from Indonesia and Malaysia are lined to battle the Filipinos and Women's events.

Jobin Carlos and Art Aliado are back expected to figure prominently especially after strong showings in international events in the past months.

Carlos, the Independent 18-year-old, will be gunning off a seven-shot win in individual play at the Monteclo Cup in Shalimar in Cebu City while Aliado, Carlos' PCTM-Gotabang teammate, destroyed all comers in the Subah Amateur weeks ago.

A 21-year-old clubhouse waited's son from Del Monte in Bukidnon, Jobin has actually won the last two events he entered counting a lopsided triumph in the NCAPG Mindanao Regional championship.

Another Filipino worth watching is Jaemie Boy Galon, a member of the PCTM the Country Club stable who has been knocking at the doors of a first major win. He finished in the top five of the IRR Inc in Cantabuang.

Portmanteau, a cool and calculating player finished fourth individually at the Monteclo tilt, a place higher than reigning Asian Games silver medallist and now-pro Miguel Tabuena, shooting a 70 in the final round to lead the Thais to the team title.

Five, meanwhile, has taken over the spearhead's role of the Singaporean squad after the graduation of Quincy Quek to the pro ranks. He finished second to Thailand's Nuttis Sukcharoen in the last Cion City Cup in Malaysia.

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TRS karters dominate national series

KARTING FROM Team Racing School delivered a 1-2-3 finish recently in the kickoff of the National Karting Series at the Carmona Racetrack.

Carlos Champions of the Private products Raymond Cudala, William Concepcion and AT Santos showed big promise as they dominated the top three spots in the Cadet 50 class.

Cudala, a 11-year-old Grade 5 student at Elizabeth Seton School, posted the best time of 1:16.426 as he swept the qualifying, pre-final and the 15-lap final race in winning the Cadet crown.

It was a fitting follow-up to his very first win, beating a 16-man field in the Champions of the Future kids-off race.

Concepcion, the 9-year-old son of

TRS karters (from left) William Concepcion, Raymond Cudala and AT Santos receive their awards at the podium.

scoring co-champion and TRS race co-driver Stuart Ilac Ermak, clinched to second in all three races while Fuzon, the third generation of the renowned racing clan, claimed third place after a fierce showdown in the final race.

After passing Ea Zobel at the first turn, Tuazon made his move to chase Concepcion as the two stuck close to each other going into the last turns of the race.

The defensive strategy worked well for Concepcion, who barely escaped by just 0.172 seconds over Tuazon.

"We're very happy with their performance that really show the overall's attention. Sub-report done to be for more competitive in the coming races," said TRS president Jil Tuazon.

Interested parties may register online at www.champions.ph/trs. For more info or call the TRS secretariat at 09175967580, 09175967581 and 8177795 loc 203 or 205.

PENONIAN LEAGUE CHAMPS Chemists team members (from left) Justin Ito, Jeremy Penaflor, and Dr. Chris Custodio are all smiles after winning the championship of the Sto. Cristo Esan Tropics Bowling Association's (SLETBA) 'Tri-Pinatapon' League held recently at the Sto. Cristo Grand Mall in Cainta.

Miranda rules Petron kickoff

CAINTA, METROMANILA (Cainta) | Inquirer Marcelo Bautista captured the PCM Bowling crown recently in the kickoff leg of the 2011 PBA on Bowling Asian Series at the Carmona Grand Philippines.

Miranda, the top PA-Hotshot in the Asian Bowling championship Legia Macao, put up a strong fight in the combined race, even beating other Asian and Korean bowlers on this event sanctioned by the Automobile Association Philippines (AAP).

Posting a total score of 44,721 seconds, he clocked 1:16 seconds and 496 seconds to turn back Mathew Chan of PETRON Racing and CJ Ilac of Ilusion Racing for his second career win after taking the Formula 3L Tecnics final race last season.

Fellow Ilusion Racing's Sacha Fenestraz and Carl Prelington, and Tuazon Racing's Raymond Cudala also topped their respective classes.

SPORTSWATCH

PH tracksters get 'Masters' boost

RUN INTO The Masters, the initial foray of the National Masters Land Senior Athletics Association of the Philippines into the local running scene, lives off on April 17 at the Quezon Memorial Circle.

It will feature race categories 21K, 10K and 2K, athletic-ualities limited to 1,000 runners on a first-come, first-served basis.

According to NAMAAP president Manny Ray, proceeds of the road race will be used to finance Team Philippines, led by marathoner Elena Manna, in the 2011 Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games) and pole vaulter Emerson Obiena, to the July-Oct 17 World Masters Athletics Championship in Sacramento, California.

For inquiries, call 8093271/8093 and 09209005577 or send an e-mail to nmaap@live.com.

Ravena lifts Eagles; Tigers triumph

By Jasmine W. Payo

KEEFER RAVENA gave viewers a good reason to get excited all over again.

Ravena came up with a scintillating three in his much-hyped Alaska debut as the Blue Eagles downed the San Beda Red Lions, 90-87, yesterday at the start of the 2011 PBL Spring V Shakey Pro season Overseer Cup.

The 17-year-old Ravena helped lift the Blue Eagles to double-digit leads before knotting in the clutch baskets that lulled the Lions' late run in the hands between two varsity champions at the packed FilOil Flying V Arena in San Juan.

University of Santo Tomas also flashed a lot of promise by turning back La Salle, 74-70, in the second game.

"My game speaks for itself," said coach Antonio Norman Black of his pointed maiden. "I remember Keefer's talent way back when he was 12 years old. He just continues to develop and attains people with the way he plays basketball."

Ravena unloaded 23 points built on an impressive 11-of-14 shooting clip aside from collecting three rebounds, four assists and two steals.

"I felt nervous," admitted Ravena. "Luckily, I got my rhythm right from my first shot."

Greg Slaughter, the 6-foot-11 Ateneo Blue stationing posed Ateneo solid 26 points consisted of two rebounds and two blocks.

Aric Fortuna drilled 12 of his 20 points from three-point range on top of eight rebounds and seven assists to lead the Tigers.

"We have more to show this year," said coach Pido Jarencio, whose Tigers had a disappointing seventh-place finish in last year's UAAP.

Tickets for the tournament, sponsored by Mighty Bond Systems and Diamond, are available at the Ticket at 479-2222 and at the venues' gates.

KEEFER Ravena, who celebrated dramatic rookie, battles San Beda's Claire Pilar-calo for possession.

Bulls clinch East's No.1 seed with rout of Cavs

CLEVELAND—Carlos Boozer's 24 points and 11 rebounds helped the Chicago Bulls clinch the top seed in the Eastern Conference with a 95-83 win over the Cleveland Cavaliers on the NBA on Friday.

Chicago, which has won six straight and 18 of 20, will have home-court advantage through the first three rounds of the playoffs. The Bulls hadn't finished with the best record in the East since 1997-98, the most recent of their six NBA championships in the Michael Jordan era.

Boozer had 12 points while Derrick Rose added 11 points and eight assists for Chicago.

J.J. Hickson led Cleveland with 22 points and 11 rebounds.

Celtics 134, Wizards 88

In Boston, Rajon Rondo had 20 points and 14 assists, and Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett also had double-doubles for Boston, which remains tied with Miami for the No. 2 seed in the Eastern Conference.

Pierce had 22 points and 12 rebounds, and Garnett added 15 points and 11 boards.

Heat 112, Bobcats 103

In Miami, Dwyane Wade remained from injury to score 27 to help Miami maintain its tie with Boston for second place in the East.

LeBron James added 23 points, nine rebounds and seven assists for Miami, which won for the 12th time in 15 games and force the Celtics on Sunday.

A daunting figure rises

Tiger threatens to crash Augusta day care party

A TIGER PROWLS THE WOODS. He ran a of levitas filthy stripped, Tiger Woods comes through with a throwback performance that could bring order back to the Masters.

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA—Rory McIlroy and Jason Day made the Masters look like child's play over two days, reading flawless rounds that gave them hope of becoming the youngest player to a green jacket since Tiger Woods.

They still have a long weekend at Augusta National...and more a case daunting figure.

Woods came roaring back to life late Friday afternoon with a 32 on the back nine that featured a daring shot off the pine straw and an 8-foot fist-pumped around the trees on the final hole for his sixth birdie of the day, and his best round at the Masters in six years.

McIlroy, the 21-year-old from Northern Ireland, made his first bogey of the tournament on the par-3 12th but otherwise was solid as ever for a 3-under 69. That gave him a 10-under 134 and a two-shot lead over Day, the 23-year-old Filipino-Australian who fired a bogey-free 66.

Even as Woods was trying to make a charge to round his 6th to finish three shots back, McIlroy didn't seem overly concerned.

"If you start thinking about anyone else here, if you let your mind wander at all, it can cost you a couple of shots," McIlroy said. "It's two shots ahead and I'm in a better position."

A year ago at Augusta, Woods was two shots back going into the weekend and never got any closer. The 14-time major champion has not been able to string together two great rounds since he made his return from a rare scandal-led year at the Masters.

"I'm just trying to put myself in the mix come Sunday," Woods said.

Filipino roots

Hell if the next generation of players is serious about stardom, the Masters would be a great place to prove it.

"I've played two good rounds to get myself here in this position," said Day, a Masters debutante whose mother is Filipino. "Obviously, I'm not going to back down because I've got lack of experience."

El Chi shot a 70 and put him tied with Woods at 7-under 137.

AP

NatGeo run fires starting gun today

KEEPS THEIR 10,000 runners will take part in the Earth Day Run of the National Geographic Channel (NGC) today at the Bonifacio Global City in Taguig today, an overwhelming response to a call to help save the environment.

Professionals, students, health buffs and weekend runners make up the bulk of the participants in the 2K, 5K, 10K and 21K race categories.

The 21K race, a new addition this year, will be flagged off at 5:10 a.m., the 10K at 5:30 a.m., 5K at 5:50 a.m. and 2K at 6 a.m.

Part of the proceeds of the Earth Day Run, presented by PLDT MyDSL and held in partnership with SGV and Greenbelt, will go to The Mind Museum in Taguig.

Jude Torquato of Far International Philippines said the NatGeo run stands out among the many local footraces because it will not only help in enjoying the people's love about their health but also "to show our pleasure we care about its health."

Rosalie O. Andrin

Ateneo, Lyceum dispute Shakey's V-League lead

By Jasmine W. Payo

TEAM MOOVE Kristine Libonate and Alyssa Valdez hope to provide the firepower again for the two when the Lady Bulldogs dispute the win lead with the Lyceum Lady Pirates in the Shakey's V League today.

And Jaclyn Alonzo star Chavy Jonsson, who triumphed in her coaching debut, area last rounds during for the finals their 25-17, 25-21, 25-20 decapping of the Eastern University last Tuesday.

"I expect the girls to be more unified and more fluid in their game," said Jonsson.

Game time is at 4 p.m. at the FilOil Flying V Arena in San Juan with Lyceum seeking a follow up to its 25-23, 27-25, 23-16, 25-23 win over Southwestern University last Tuesday.

University of St. La Salle-Bacolod and National University got the their second win in three games when they tangle earlier at 2 p.m.

Games can be viewed on live streaming at www.v-league.ph.

Lyceum coach Emil Lorma said he expects a tougher match even if his Lady Pirates boast a solid lineup buttressed by former two-time MVP Mary Jean Balse, Joy Cases, Dahlia Cruz, Jamie Brita, Monic Casanova and Ann Tabudlo-ong.

"I think we have a 50-50 chance against Ateneo," said Lorma. "I think Greg (Dedoc) and Dahlia (Cruz) have room to shine in their game."

The Lady Bulldogs rebounded from their opening-day loss with a 30-25, 25-19, 25-23, 20-25 decision over St. Benilde behind Cal Supanococo and Linda Santiago.

The Lady Stingers, who dropped a 20-25, 25-15, 25-23, decision on Wednesday, remitter from their first loss with Ilaya Gwendam, Kay Aplacen, Charmaine Morallo, Florabelle Dolar and Sisenteun enforcement Jayde Hair.

VETTEL

Vettel claims Malaysian pole, eyes 2nd victory

SEPANG, MALAYSIA—Sebastian Vettel claimed pole position for the Malaysian Grand Prix on Saturday, extending Red Bull's record-breaking qualifying dominance, and setting up the German to start the season-first Grand Prix with successive victories.

The defending world champion was the last man to complete his flying lap at the Sepang circuit and dramatically edged out McLaren's Lewis Hamilton by just a tenth of a second. Red Bull's Mark Webber was third and McLaren's Jenson Button fourth, with the top four separated by just a third of a second.

Ferrari's Fernando Alonso will start the race from fifth, while Renault's Vitaly Petrov, Mercedes' Nico Rosberg and Sauber's Kamui Kobayashi completed the top 10.

For the second race running, Michael Schumacher did not make it into the final session of qualifying—running more than six weeks of a second behind teammate Rosberg—and will start 11th.

Including last season, Red Bull has claimed pole position in 17 of the past 23 grands prix, the 37th success for Vettel and his 20th on the all-time list with three-time world champion Sir Jackie Stewart.

AP

37 Seuart athletes join Asean taekwondo tilt

THE 37-STRONG Seuart taekwondo team will try to make waves at the close of the 10th Asian Taekwondo Federation (ATF) championships today in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Eleven countries, including Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia, are also competing in the event, which serves as part of the preparation for the 25th Southeast Asian games in Indonesia this November.

Llamades deputy hosts coaching clinic

REY DANIEL, assistant coach of the E-Meg Derby Ace Llamades, will conduct a coaching clinic open to Quezon City residents for four hours April 25 to 29 at 1 p.m. at the Amoranto Sports Complex. The clinic is in line with the youth sports development program and livelihood project of the office of Quezon City Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte. Coaching materials will be distributed. For more details, contact JP Castanares at 0917/372-no 8388 or 0917-3606877.

CDO Smart tennis: Estanio scores double triumph anew

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—James Javier Bugallo Estanio Jr. completed his dominion yesterday of the Mindanao leg by winning his second crown in this CDO stand leg of Smart presents HUAO Age-Group National Tennis Tour 2011 Junior Satellite Circuit Grand leg at the Waterfalls Tennis Club.

Estanio, who also won the boys 16 and 16-under titles in the Bacolodnd and Davao legs, pocketed both crowns again after crushing his opponents in the finals of the tournament supported by Chito Sports, Metrobic, Hospital, Head, the official ball, and Tretinoin.

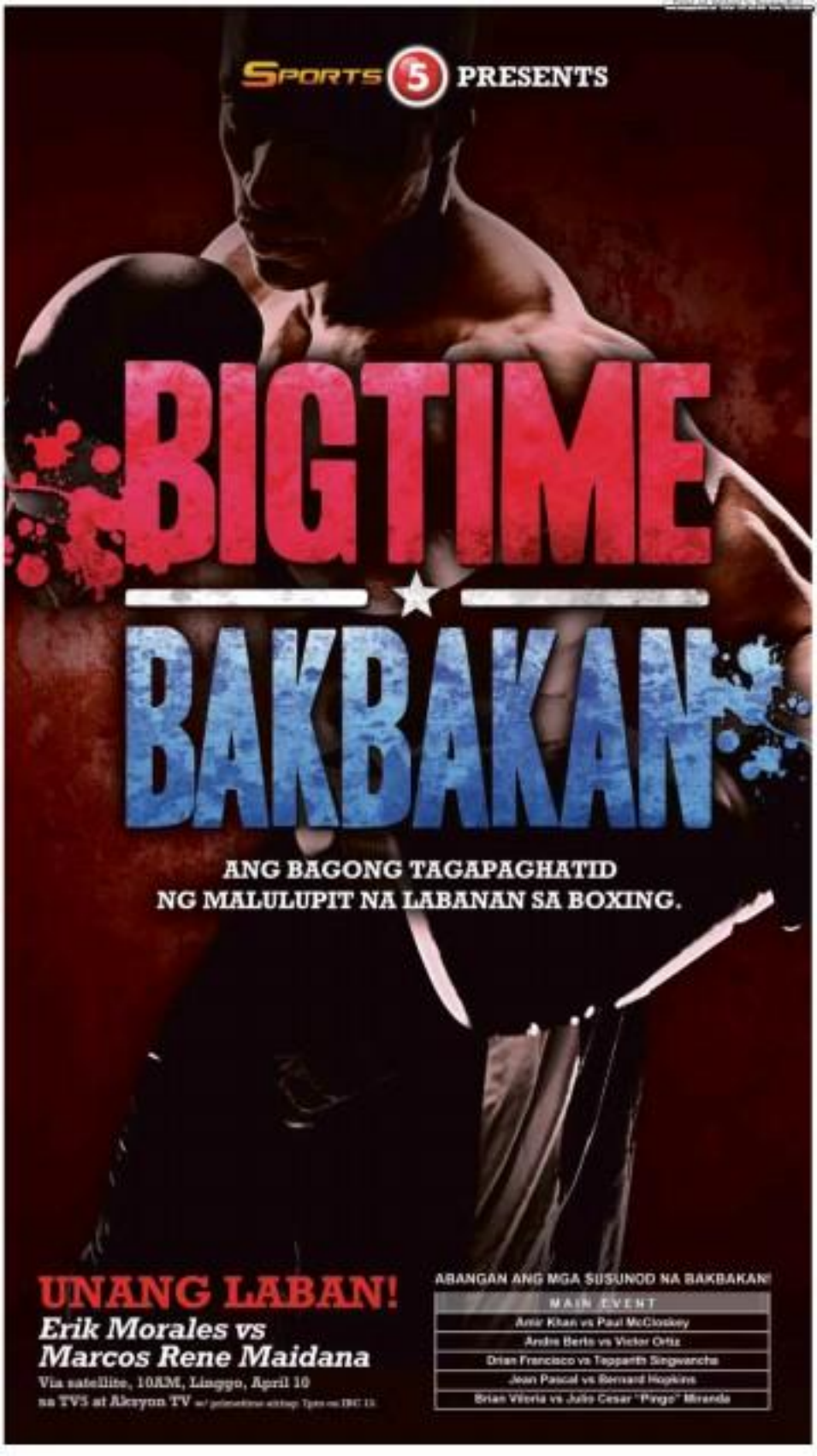
Estanio, seeded No. 1, defeated No. 2 Elvin Lopez, 10-3, in the boy's 16-under and ruled the 16-under class by outlasting third seed Jaylords Amancon, 10-4, to claim both crowns of the event sponsored by PLDT Smart. Elmo Munoz 6 Pangilinan.

"I'm willing to do everything what it takes to win crown to earn ranking points," said Estanio, who is expected to receive stiff challenges when the 13-leg junior national event goes to Visayas in Cebu next week.

In the girls 16-under finals, Lyndon Mikylah Joel Lynette Palaase, 10-7, to win the title, while Romaine Beatrix took home the girl's 16-under trophy by beating Janette Palaase, 10-6. Sienna signed Ms. Dominique Ong, 10-2, to claim the girls' 14-under title.

In the boy's 14-under class, Amando Amancona outplayed Christian Bel Lopez, 10-4, to win the crown, while Mac Steve Palaase earned the girls' 12-under crown by defeating Nicole Sharapova, 10-4.

Henry Garcia thrashed Christian Llanos, 10-4, to win the season 10-under event.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Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Sunday BIZ

Ecija's 'pilipit' queen expands to real estate

IN THIS ISSUE

Pride comes before the fall /B3

Tentay serves quality, safety in every bottle /B4

OFW families living the dolce vita /B3

Text and photos by Aristotle Roque
Inquirer Central Luzon

CABANATUAN CITY —At 19, Letlicia Uy decided to go into production of baked goods with pilipit, a twisted native pastry as her maiden product.

Her first attempt failed. The pastry she made, which was supposed to be crunchy, turned out soft when she undercooked it.

But that experience only pushed her to try harder to perfect her pastries.

"I asked a relative to teach me how to make pilipit the right way," Uy says. Soon, she was selling several packs of pilipit.

Her success eventually earned her the moniker "Pilipit Queen" of Nueva Ecija.

Grit and determination

Uy later acquired a rundown warehouse which had a bamboo (firewood-fed oven). Through this warehouse, she continued baking pilipit and other bread like pandesisa, balara and dalagang Cabiral that became bestsellers.

She got another break when one of her Chinese customers, who owed her P6,000, agreed to sell one of his stores to her for P12,000. She raised the amount with the help of her father, a Chinese businessman, and soon, she had a bakeshop and retail enchainment outlet.

Two incidents brought out her grit and determination.

One was when a teacher placed an order for 2,000 pieces of rascal pie for an occasion the following day. Although her helper had retired from the order, Uy got in touch with the teacher and quickly availed the delivery chore.

"They will be 2,000 people who will know of my product and our bakeshop," Uy told her helper.

That night she and her helper prepared the pies and delivered them in time for the school program.

The second incident was when her establishment was gutted by fire. She immediately hired street sweepers to clean the debris and supervises on build a kiosk. The following morning, it was business as usual, as if the fire did not happen.

She built a three-story building in place of the gutted establishment. It soon included a small restaurant, a grocery section and a bookstore, which was the first of its kind in the city in the early 1970s. She called the new establishment SU (Quality) Bakeshop, which was in become the center of her growing group of companies.

First shopping mall

Uy was able to accomplish much despite having finished only Grade six. But while she lacked formal schooling, she made sure she would not stop learning, and read books on the lives of successful businessmen.

At 11, she helped the family by selling boiled eggs and other items in the city's transport terminal. She also sold wares on the city's sidewalk.

When patronage of her bakeshop grocery-bookstore picked up, her son, Lito, urged her to put up a shopping center in the city.

Uy, she said, would always ask her to visit shopping malls whenever they went to Metro Manila just see how they operate. She was also told by her son that a shopping mall with restaurants would be a hit in this city.

Convinced, Uy approached a bank here for a P38-million loan to fund the construction of a shopping mall.

"The bank manager turned down my loan application. He told me Cabanatuan City was not yet ready for malls is perfect," she says.

Determined and hopeful, she approached another bank and was granted a P35-million loan. An additional P3-million was released to complete the three-story mall.

more »

LETICIA Uy of Cabanatuan City was named "countryside inventor of the year" in 1998 by the late President Corazon Aquino.

THERE complex in Cabanatuan City houses a bakeshop and restaurant.

SM Shopping Mall is the first shopping center in Central Luzon.

Sa pag-abot ng pangarap, walang hiwalay.

PhilPlans

Inquirer hosts PR Institute debut

THE PHILIPPINE Daily Inquirer will host the debut offering of the Public Relations Institute on April 29. Public or the Inquirer offices in Makati City.

The PR Institute will be the education and instructional arm of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP), the premier organization of public relations professionals in the country.

"In the value of public relations gains greater appreciation among businesses, government and in advocacy work, we are compelled to assess that our tasks will be indefinitely challenging, to take on the tasks," said PRSP president Butch Bugod, APR (consultant to the chair and CEO for corporate communications, UMA, 7 forward to last.

"And that is what the PR Institute as all about – it will provide continuing professional development training to cation in a promotion of better practices and better-equipped PR professionals," stressed Bugod.

A project under PRSP's Professional Development Committee, the PR Institute's First Module will be about "Strategy" and will feature courses expandable resource persons including noted inspirational speaker and Management Research Group's Bobby about "Making Issues Breaking the Public to Your Favor", Corporate Affairs Manager's one of the youngest members of the House of Representatives, who will speak on the topic "Out of the Box: Building a Reputation of Your Own," Inquirer writer Tina Arceo-Dumlao who will speak on "Meet the Press: Dealing with the Business Beat," and TV5 president and CEO Ramon Soy C. Inquirer also will discuss "Breaking the Ostopoly: The TV5 Challenge."

The courses will also include a panel discussion on the topic "Strategy: The Countdown Deployed" that will have veteran public relations practitioner Elpi Cuna, public relations consultant of Sen. Miguel Zubiri, Mila Lloris corporate affairs director of Bond Advisory Services, and former press secretary Silka Hernandez, president of Nether Researchers (Philippines), as panelists. The seminar will be capped by review of the lessons presented.

The PR Institute is open to the public but the limited slots only interested parties may inquire with the PRSP Secretariat at 684-0018 or may send an e-mail to publicrelations@inquirer.com. Slots for PRSP members is P3,000 for non-members; P4,000, for students and representatives from the academe P2,000.

PROGRAM FOR COLORECTAL CANCER PREVENTION

Cancer survivors the fifth cancer survivor and the third leading cause of cancer deaths in the Philippines through the efforts of Metro Colorectal Healthcare (PCH) and Philippine Society of Gastroenterology (PSG), the program for colorectal cancer prevention has formed a multi-sector they signed the memorandum of agreement (MOA). Signing was done at the Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila on March 31. Present were (left to right) Dr. Ricardo Manalac, PSG president; Dr. Ernesto Pineda, PCH president; Dr. Jose Ma. Ferrer, Department of Health undersecretary; Dr. Jaime Galvez Tan, Philippine Cancer Society president; Dr. Ernesto Pineda, PCH president; Dr. Ricardo Manalac, PSG president; Dr. Jaime Galvez Tan, Philippine Cancer Society president; Dr. Jose Ma. Ferrer, Department of Health undersecretary; Dr. Ricardo Manalac, PSG president; Dr. Ernesto Pineda, PCH

Pride comes before the fall

A LEADER'S WAY

John C. Maxwell

ISH ASKED!!! Hebrew proverb warns, "Pride comes before the fall," and nonetheless the adage is widely fulfilled as a case in point, consider the story of American snowboarder Lindsey Jacobellis.

Gaining forward victory in the gold medal race of the snowboard cross, Jacobellis immediately attempted to showboat on the second to last jump. She lost her balance maneuvering in said act and crashed to the ground. By the time she recovered and glided to the finish line, she had to settle for the silver medal.

Jacobellis paid a penalty for pride, yet other people appear to seize arrogance while thriving professionally. Michael Jordan's brash egotism did not prevent him from triumphing in the hoops ring. Charles Shwab's unnerving smugness may have boosted relationships at CSS, but he has never been more popular, selling, say, several million trade cost dates to a matter of minutes. The conceit of Oracle CEO Larry Ellison has been noted by competitors, colleagues, and friends alike, yet he ranks among the wealthy. However, I maintain that pride is every bit as destructive to the welfare of a leader as the ancient proverb forewarns.

Along with the propensity to see themselves as superior to others, Muhammad Ali, Charles Shwab, and Larry Ellison share in common the attainment of enormous "success." However, each also appears to have left a wake of destruction relationally. While their pride may not have cost them professionally, privately it seems it has taken a toll.

In its truest sense, success involves more than material wealth and career accomplishments. When considering the implications of pride, we must remember to see the whole picture. An individual may be standing atop the world with respect in a career, yet still "fall" in the deepest depths. In my estimation, success happens when the people who know you the best, love and respect you the most. In light of this definition, it requires to strictly incompatible with success.

Many people with talent make it into the limelight, but those who have neglected to develop humility rarely experience satisfaction that endures. Accumulated pride alienates them from connecting with others. Consequently, they bounce from relationship to relationship until the size of their celebrity finally burns out.

[Reprinted with permission from the John Maxwell Co. and Injoy Leadership Consultancy.

For your training needs on leadership as well as organizational and personal effectiveness, please do call Injoy Leadership Consultancy at 687-3914/706-4853 and look for Rhodie. Visit us also at www.injoyleadership.com.ph for details on our workshops.]

OFW families living the dolce vita

Remittances lead to more shopping, study says

By Vanessa B. Hidalgo

REMITTANCES OF overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) not only prop up the local economy, they also tend to spoil OFWs' loved ones back home.

Research shows that Filipino families with OFW relatives engage in more leisure activities and own more gadgets compared to those without a relative working abroad.

Synergy Business Consultancy conducted the market research and pointed out that OFW families are more inclined to eat out, socialize, go to the mall and purchase the latest electronic gadgets.

Synergy managing director Ivy Anette Reyes notes that "since they have higher purchase capacity many of those OFW families engage in certain leisure activities compared with those without."

The study shows that 42 percent of respondents with OFW relatives go to mall against 32 percent for those without family members who work abroad.

When families with OFW relatives go to the mall, they usually dine out in fast foods or fine dining restaurants.

After eating, they tend to do some shopping or window shopping (43 percent) while others watch movies (31 percent).

Some also engage in social activities such as social climbing (28 percent), calendar (18 percent), going on parties or social gatherings (17 percent), bar hopping (9 percent) and dancing in discos or clubs (5 percent).

In Metro Manila, two of five households have an OFW member as family member who sends home money.

In terms of socioeconomic profile, 84 percent or the majority of OFW families belong to the D class. And 9 percent of families with OFW relatives are in the upper income or ABC class.

The survey involved 1,000 households in Metro Manila and respondents were interviewed between September and October 2010.

The research also shows that 31 percent of OFW families have a computer or laptop while only 11 percent of families without OFW relatives have a computer at home. OFW families also tend to have mobile phones and digital cameras.

Also, OFW families tend to travel more compared with those without relatives abroad.

Research also shows that among the popular recreational activities of OFW families are going to the gym, playing musical instruments, playing board games, going to the cafes or spa, playing video games and engaging in sports.

Coca-Cola

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Ecija's 'pilipit' queen expands. . .

From page B1

Built in 1993, the mall housed a supermarket, cinemas, a fast food center, a convenience center with computerized bowling alleys, boutiques, drugstores and other shops just up by cinemas.

In 1996, she opened the two-story SR Pacific Mall, which has more than 300 shops and restaurants, a supermarket, a hardware store, theaters and a cluster of motor selling various items. It was put up with the help of Landco Pacific Development Corp. (Landco).

In 2008, through a special arrangement, a branch of Robinsons shopping mall was set up beside it. The two malls side by side renewed its business.

Uy is also gearing up for another big development project, the Galleywood City Golf Course and Residential Complex, to be situated on a 200-hectare property near the SR Pacific Mall.

After putting up two shopping malls, a subdivision, a warehouse-type superstore and other businesses, Uy had set forgotten to expand her Ospital business. The SR Bakeshop/Cakes and Restaurant, Sometime later, she put up branches of the bakeshop in Cagayan Valley and Central Luzon.

She also established Plaza Letrita, a fine dining restaurant, in this city.

In 2009, she ventured overseas and put up the SR Bakeshop and Pastbed store in California. In December that year, the establishment was given an "E" rating by the County of Los Angeles' Department of Health Services. One of the products offered by her California branch is pilipit.

Now at 71, Uy does not plan to slow down and wants to continue overseeing her business empire and 3,000 employees.

"I learned from books and various coaching methods how to do it. I put up a management team which is doing the job for me. I just approve or disapprove the some in the team things to my attention," Uy says.

Tentay serves quality, safety in every bottle

From page B4

"Quality and safety are always present in the way we do things," says Cruz.

She shares that the Tentay plant is near the Navotas fish port where Tentay gets the fish.

Tentay Food Sauces Inc. (TFSI) makes use of automated processes under a hygienic work environment to ensure safety.

The freshest catch is always used for the sauce making. The correct temperature during transportation is applied to maintain fish freshness. Containers and plastic bottles are cleaned and sanitized prior to use. Most importantly the fish handlers use the right safety and hygienic equipment when handling the products during the entire processes.

Tentay Pura complies with the country's international food safety standards set by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and with the standards set by export markets such as the US, Canada, Japan, Middle East and Europe.

"Good quality puto requires time and the freshest catch. There are a lot of products in the market now that are not as safe as they claim to be," writes Cruz.

"When you're in the food business, you have to ensure the safety of your consumers...that is non-negotiable. With Tentay Pura, you don't [to—ed] only make sure that from the start of the fermentation process all the way to bottling, we get the process right," says Cruz.

Home Depot CEO finds . . .

From page B4

ch inches materials for the building of three restrooms in the SEIS Library after learning that although the twin-story library was constructed in 2009, it operated without restrooms.

Nooyen welcomed Go's help, saying that IDEB scholars and poor Muslim and Christian kids who would take five computer lessons and take catch-up reading lessons in the library would no longer need to worry about their toilets.

"It's a small thing...so he able to build a classic toilet for a kid. But it is no insignificant thing to promote the health of a child—and ultimately his growth and development, and his good future," Go says.

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Sunday BIZ

Home Depot CEO finds inspiration in the toilet

ADOBE SAFA members pose with the children at the inaugural of the Malipayon Mindo (MMS) Peace Library in Davaobenga City.

By Jess David and Nikka Ann Mesares
Contributors

THIS ISN'T about toilet humor. But it does involve a dirty toilet.

"In our elementary school, the restrooms were so rare the least, ill-maintained and ill-equipped. Feces were splattered over the cracked tiles, and water barely sprayed out of the broken faucets," says Napoleon Go, owner of Home Depot, a successful home and construction superstore chain.

Go admitted that, in those days, he would hold off answering nature's call until he got home—an unfortunate habit he found hard to break while studying in prominent schools in Cebu. This led to terrible problems later in Go's life.

But the critical curiosity challenged the young Go. Knowing best it was to be deprived of proper hygiene and sanitation, he turned active to let his children experience the same thing.

Moreover, the reality of poverty struck him hard.

"If you ask our only 5 percent in the business, I would say the toilets jump-started the values. I was moved, through this painful experience, to help poor people out there who have had it harder than I did," Go says. "I learn from dehumanizing it hole to relieve yourself in the dirtiest of these places."

A quaint shop

In the family business, Go found the vehicle to transform his vision into reality. The battle-worn s quaint hardware shop in Cebu, selling tiles, bathroom ware and sandstuffs. Through effective management, investments, and lots of determination, the family business blossomed into Home Depot.

With five branches in Metro Manila, Home Depot has perched for virtually every consumption need. Stain concentrators and vinyl tiles to outdoor lighting. Lookily the no pretenses are designated by both rich and poor for their one-stop construction products.

When asked what makes Home Depot different from other hardware and retail stores, Go laughed and said, "Home Depot doesn't just help its customers build houses, we help them build homes."

He says that somehow, "from the vision of a clean, functioning toilet, I developed the principle of clean, harmonious, and accessible homes."

Staying true to his promise, he has committed Home Depot to charity by regularly offering free construction materials and services to poor families and schools. Cebu is his home, and his childhood, is his particular advocacy of building toilets for public schools in Cebu, Davao and Leyte in Visayas.

Later last year, Home Depot tied up with the Ayala Foundation (AFI) to construct seven libraries in ABS-CBN Kindergarten Ishan (KBE) Peace Library in Mandaluyong, Zambo Sur. The latest is a brown also beyond last values belonging Exp- years regularly.

ABSC, a peace and literacy group advocating education in war-torn areas in Mindanao, was hard pressed in soliciting funds to build a restroom at the KBE library. This is where Go comes in and his help has been invaluable for the group.

No small thing

"I had read that the kids who visited ABS either did what they needed to do in the bushes since behind the library or—just like me—withheld the need until they got home," says Go, who met with ABS and ABS founder Armand Sison Watson, a public relations executive and former business reporter.

The meeting was arranged by Teresita Ang-See, founding president of Inner Peace Sa Kinabuhi, Inc., an organization of Chinese Filipinos actively promoting the integration of the ethnic Chinese into mainstream Philippine society.

In December, Go went to Bilidanao hotel bowls and cu-

HOME B

TTSF's automated pipe-in-one ensures safe and quality sauces.

Tentay serves quality, safety in every bottle

HOW CAN you tell if your patis has the colors and smell by you're looking for? Check the labels and the ingredients.

Tentay Patis, which has been making patis (fish sauce) for more than 60 years, is confident it will make the grade.

Tentay Patis was founded in 1946 by Rogelio Arroyo, or Ahng Tentay, right before it was bankrupted in November.

Since then, Tentay Patis has become a prominent presence in kitchens and tables in Manila.

"Tentay Patis is guaranteed 100 percent pure and all-natural," says Sylia J. Gesa, president of Tentay Food Industries, Inc. and Ahng Tentay's daughter.

She maintains the traditional methods her mom and dad, Jacinto Sr. Gesa, swore by, from the cooking to the sun-drying to the bottling.

WORKERS tend to the kalo at hand.

Gesa maintains the traditional methods her mom and dad, Jacinto Sr. Gesa, swore by, from the cooking to the sun-drying to the bottling.

Tentay Patis is now manufactured in Tentay Food Industries, Inc. and Ahng Tentay's daughter.

She maintains the traditional methods her mom and dad, Jacinto Sr. Gesa, swore by, from the cooking to the sun-drying to the bottling.

Tentay Patis believes in using the natural fermentation process to keep the aromatic and full-bodied quality of the traditional condiment. This way, the crisp clear, amber-colored liquid and savory concoction is savory bottle.

HOME B

Sunday LIFESTYLE
Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan
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IN THIS ISSUE

■ Good morning, Ho Chi Minh City /D1

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AMBASSADOR Seoncez with Paco Market Redevelopment Project director Maja Olivares-Co and Gina Lopez

The blessings of being 90

'Something future generations can look back to as the first step in a long, beautiful and meaningful journey'

IT'S A BLESSING to make it to 90. It's an even bigger blessing to make it to 90 with your family and other loved ones by your side, greeting each new day. But the biggest blessing of all is to make it to 90, with your family and loved ones, and have the special opportunity to give back to society in the hope that you can still make the world a better place.

Ambassador Bienvenido Tantoco Jr. is in this good place now. Turning 90 last Thursday, the patriarch of the country's biggest luxury retail chain and high-end store chains celebrated his birthday by tossing coin to market vendors the city-goods section of the redeveloped Paco Market. The Tantoco/Santos Group of Companies donated P12 million to the ongoing Paco Market Redevelopment Project. The specialty product area-dry goods section is the first to be completed in the project.

The April 7 inauguration was led by Presidente Aquino. But apart from the presence of the President, what must have gladdened the heart of this widower was the presence of his six children and 23 grandchildren. Had the 22 great grandchildren—many of them babies, toddlers—been brought to the celebration, the venue would have been surely packed.

Around him were his children Rico and wife Nena, Nedy, Marilen, Micaela, Blasfley and Marilene, and as were his grandchildren led by Bessie, Annie, Bong (each of whom holds key positions in the Group's companies).

The ambassador not only looked well, he was also strong enough to socialize with guests. He came to the celebration on

Fun Kiddie Activities
At Eastwood City

Explore the cute and colorful Butterfly Garden.
April 16, 17, 30 and May 1 | Eastwood Mall Open Park

Start your kids early on business with the Biz Kids Bazaar.
April 16 | Eastwood City Walk 2

Find the best school for your child at the Pre-school Fair.
May 16 – 22 | Eastwood Mall Atrium

Explore science in a fun way in the MoBlocks Robotics Kiddie Workshop.
April 25 – May 22 | Eastwood Mall

Meet and Greet Bob the Builder and Friends!
May 27 – 29 | Eastwood Mall Atrium

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April 29 | Eastwood City Walk 2

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THE Tantoco grandchildren from left, Dennis Tantoco, Enzo Frank, Mindy Tantoco, Bea Tantoco, Catherine Hosang (behind, partly hidden), Beatrice Lobregat, Cathy Hosang, Cristiana Tantoco, Michael Hosang, Quin Layus (partly hidden), Brenda Juan, CP Tantoco and Hj Tantoco

The blessings of being 90

PRESIDENTA points back at the words that's been there on Pasig River since

Shoe lovers unite for the 2011 Markdown Madness at Tektite Ortigas

The much awaited Markdown Madness at the Philippine Stock Exchange Center or commonly known as Tektite in Ortigas will be on April 11 to 15, 2011 from 9AM to 8PM daily.

This year, the multi-brand shoe and lifestyle super sale for footwear and apparel lovers offers up to 70-percent discount for a variety of brands including Skechers, Feico Unlimited, Zoo York, Pony, Marnell and NO FEAR.

Catch the Markdown Madness sale and get your favorite brands at super discounted prices.

AMBASSADOR Tantoco expresses his thanks to Paco residents who remember the market inaugural and treasure of the city, guests and entertainers.

HELEN Tantoco (far right) with Hajji Climaco and Simeon Crisostomo, who is in charge of culture affairs in the City of Manila

PLENIPOTENTIA poses beside the inauguration of the restored post Paco Market, and Tantoco's president Hajji Tantoco

From Paco to world

In Zoo Manufacturing, in the vicinity of Paco, Tantoco said has a recognizing and dedicated, quite with Chinese named a business in their house selling name handkerchiefs, each as fancy named bed way clothes. So another day, one Tantoco's right in San Mauricio, a store door gave into the company's genuine

Exhibit, forum and summe

MAGUNTU, host the distinctive Investment Conference (IMC), May 11-20, to provide members of the local community advance to showcase opportunities that investors to the region and provide a platform for investment industry decision makers to discuss how we can position this country as the investment destination of choice.

Library forum

The Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines will hold a forum on "Wisdom 101" on April 14, 2-5 p.m. at the Ortigas Foundation Library. Ortigas Bldg., Pasig. Forum is open to the public.

Register at the ASLP Library. Call 634-0301 local 411, 631-0707 and 631-1201.

Shakespeare in Hollywood' in Ortigas

"Shakespeare in Hollywood," written by Brian Hotter Hayes and directed by Rene Rey, a New York-based internationally acclaimed director, will be staged at the Ortigas Foundation Library, Ortigas Bldg., Pasig. Showtimes are on April 14, 15, 21 and 22 at 8 p.m. and April 16 and 23 at 5 p.m. Tickets are P1,000 and P800 for students. Call 0917-8433.

Sermon on the mount

Second Wednesday series on Judaic roots of the Apostolic Line. Orientation held to talk "Sermon on the Mount," on April 13, 3:30 p.m., at Bible House, Inquiries and reservations: Please call the office. Call 642-8433.

Pls. Trix Cuisia, Manila Overgrowth area...dry goods vendors in Tutuban Market; Jacinto Paclarin's partner's Ambassador Chancellor Tarriela (center), Alice Lagman Bautista-Mejia, Rudy Tantoco, Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim (far left) and Imp.B.Jacob Engneling.

PHOTOS/Tiffany and Market Prism with Marissa Santiago Enriquez

SMART REDEFINES MOBILE RETAIL EXPERIENCE

SMART starts nationwide roll-out of personalized full service concept stores

New SMART Store personalized service focuses on emerging mobile consumer needs.

A revolution is taking place in SMART Communications outlets all over the Philippines that changes how wireless centers respond to consumers' needs and transforms each store visit into a complete mobile retail experience.

The recent grand opening of the SMART Store at the Power Plant in Rockwell Center ushers in the new age in wireless customer service. The new store is a one-stop shop that aims to bring the digital lifestyle closer to its subscribers throughout the country.

This new kind of engagement with the market focuses on the needs of the consumer in providing them first, through easy and advanced, made possible by combining superior customer and after-sales support with world-class shopping experience.

"This is in consonance with the vision of SMART to place within reach of every Filipino the latest technological innovations and allow them to experience it," said SMART Head of Wireless Consumer Division Ramon Isberto.

According to SMART retail store operations Department Head Mitzi Aguinaldo, the new SMART Store offers new features, enhanced services, live demos and a more exciting look.

The SMART brand is designed to make every visit an exciting and memorable experience. This is why the store has modern features that allow for demos, and innovative merchandising and a self-help area.

Against the backdrop of a rapidly changing digital lifestyle, SMART has also strengthened the training of their store crew to further develop their customer service skills and expand more efficiently to their customers.

Mike de Guzman Service Group Head, Perry Nacua, and SMART assistant vice-president for retail store design in order to address the changing and ever-changing consumer needs.

"Results of our customized and dynamic outlets show that the third tablet store should provide customers and look at existing shopping experience and a improved customer service middleman. The new SMART Store is basically the result of what we have learned, which is putting customers, and very excellent and with improved service" he added.

The job of the Smart Store is going to be key in providing our subscribers with the best customer experience. This is a key ingredient in the company's intention to strengthen its undisputed leadership in the market," he continued.

Refreshing, Friendly Feel

The new look of SMART Store reflects its desire to create customer convenience introduced by offering a world-class shopping experience backed up by efficient customer service and after-sales support. Customers find the products and services they need all within the convenience of a one-stop shop.

A welcoming store facade features the new SMART Store logo, which is set in playful tone and colors that give passersby a clue to the fun experience that awaits them inside.

The store layout reflects a modern, user-friendly and cost-efficient design to evoke an upbeat, youthful and vibrant atmosphere that appears to be suited customers. It offers lounges and waiting areas to encourage relaxed interaction with the staff.

Lighting elements direct visitors to the latest from Smart's products and experience zones where customers can take a relaxed hands-on approach to discover and explore the available wide customer plus or not to pay their bill.

A segmented service section includes the call service, customer care, sales and service management and payment.

The store display features, which serve as an integrated platform for various phone brands, laptops and other mobile devices, invite customers to pick and play with the handsets. A TV screen entertains waiting customers and gives a running display of products and services.

Technology closer to shoppers

SMART Store features a wide array of working mobile phones like the BlackBerry brand, the latest gadgets like the Samsung Galaxy Tab that customers can try using while inside the store. There are also laptops with Wi-Fi and broadband connection for customers to try the trading services of SMART.

The customer-focused environment is like a media workshop where technology becomes more approachable to shoppers, whether they are digital beginners or technology savvy.

At the core of the store experience are interactive areas featuring extensive product displays and demonstration pods giving customers the chance to browse to explore the store's wide array of products and services.

Friendly and knowledgeable staff, in their new distinctive uniforms, welcome customers through a complete customer connectivity that is powered by SMART's overall and reliable network with new service methodology support.

The new SMART Store experience is fully integrated into the shopping environment. The transformation revolves around the customers' experience, service on the operational requirements of the business.

Connection with customers

The Smart Store provides a customer experience with three elements – Explore, Connect, Shop. Customers can explore various products and services to satisfy their needs through the gadgets. They can also take advantage of the latest programs for connecting within Smart's large community. A growing shopping experience is offered through the newly friendly staff, coupled with existing products, bundles and accessories.

Customers' response to the new SMART Store is very encouraging. Many have expressed satisfaction with the complete experience they encountered while hanging around the refurbished wireless center.

"We believe that SMART Store enables our customers to fully enjoy their mobile retail experience and this gives us the confidence to continue providing only the best for them," Nacua said.

To celebrate the store's grand opening, subscribers can take advantage of SMART's full system of an FPT, Mount Windows Phone 7 for Plus 1800 Data Plan 2000, to Plus 800 Short Plus 9500 Unlimited Data Plan Chicken package. Promo is available only at the refurbished Rockwell SMART Store in Makati City until April 15.

Nationwide rollout

SMART will unveil its next batch of redesigned new concept stores in key metro across the country. SMART Stores will be completed before the year ends.

"In 2012 we would have opened a total of 100 SMART Stores. We will give our 40 million and growing subscribers a winning experience in registering, connecting and shopping in one store," assured Isberto.

SMART has taken its solid strategy a level higher beyond the realm of promos, equipment and price wars, to provide a better playing and shopping environment for its subscribers.

From the design of the physical structure to the design of the customer experience the look, and feel and of the new SMART store reflect the company's unwavering will to understand and the ever-changing needs of its customers and the ever-changing digital lifestyle.

SMART retail market advisor Orlando B. Vea declared, "The new SMART Store is another proof of our strong customer focus. We focused on how customers actually use their phones and mobile services, instead of just thinking of how we want to sell them. We listened to what customers want in their mobile store experience."

SMART chief wireless advisor Orlando B. Vea leads the ribbon cutting during the unveiling of SMART's grand opening of its full service concept store in Rockwell. Standing (L-R) are Carla Francisco, Retail Store Channel Manager; Perry Nacua, Group Head, Sales & Customer Service; Mario Aguinaldo, Department Head, Retail Store Operations; Ivy Sanchez, Department Head Customer Experience Design; Rowegie Hipolito Pasamba, President & CEO and Rona Mejica, Division Head.

Ceremonial toast among SMART executives and officials.

SMART Store Rockwell Staff in their distinctive uniforms.

PLDT and SMART CEO Napoleon L. Nazareno welcomes SMART officials and guests during the grand opening of the SMART Store in Rockwell.

SMART Store centerstage of the line and stylish accessories for cellphones and laptops.

Smart Store's wall encouraging you to Explore, Connect and Shop.

SMART Store provides better playing and shopping environment for its subscribers.

Sunday LIFESTYLE Travel

Good morning, Ho Chi Minh City

The city formerly known as Saigon has become a favorite of Filipino shoppers for its storied, tumultuous past

Text and photos by Alex T. Vergara

IF THE SUDDEN spike in the number of motorcycles in Metro Manila is beginning to drive you crazy, wait until you step in the streets of Ho Chi Minh City.

Still lovingly referred to by most Vietnamese as Saigon, its former name, the city of more than nine million people boasts of five million motorcycles crashing there its boulevards and side streets.

The first-time visitor needs to be extra alert and on his toes while crossing streets, as this popular mode of transportation seems to pop out from all nowhere from practically every direction.

Traders dazzlers are "street women," as Vietnamese call them, with toddlers sitting either on improvised high chairs placed in front of their daddies or wedged between their parents and bigger siblings, area common sights.

Some motorpinking minds have even

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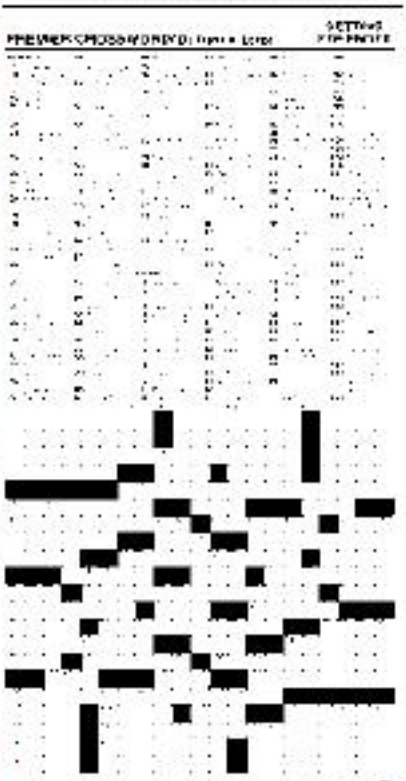
Sunday Crossword



CHOPT. Bowls of elephant's ear fish

FRONTTOP: Beaded and embroidered slippers, sticks in traditional Vietnamese costumes called ao dais; Definitely Vietnamese lacquerware.

CENTERED: performers at Dinh Cuoi Village outside Saigon

PICTURE: Dame Cathedral's symbol of predominantly Roman Catholic faith.

PICTURE: Dame pose in front of the Rex Hotel, a symbol of Saigon's prosperous years.

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FlipSide

A surreal feast for the senses

The Chaine des Rotisseurs holds an imaginative induction gala that Dali would have loved

CEBU
CEBU

Jaime Piccio

THE CEBU chapter of La Chaine des Rotisseurs held its 38th induction gala at Plaza Rose Cebu City Hotel. General manager Marco Protacio decreed a theme: "Beyond Imagination: A Taste of the Surreal."

Surrealism has much to do with imagination, so chapter-going out of control. But this was a well-planned surreal evening, to tease the senses as well as the palate. Salvador Dali would have loved it, especially the glamour achieved by a crowd of 132, dressed to the nines, and then some.

Hopelessly colors were part of the plan, as in the crepes forming soft, pulsating, circle of flowers, shimmering agony too. So much so that, with unerring eye, Amparito Llantino Lhuillier had supported ladies to wear petals in black or white, gray or flesh. Some did, others didn't, and it didn't matter. Such is surrealism—or was it Dada?

Amparito herself was a vision in white persimmon and diamonds. She heads the Cercle Bailliage of La Chaine, while husband Honorary French Consul Michel Lhuillier is Bailli Delegate for the whole Philippines. As such, he held the gaddyn-award to dub this year's crop of new members.

GLENN and Honey Loop, Bailli Delegate-to-Macau Donald Hall and Alice Mah-Ling

HONORARY Consul of France in Cebu Michel Lhuillier and Amparito Llantino Lhuillier

Silver Tiffany chairs

After welcome drinks and canapés at the foyer, everyone was talked into a special hall, to sit on silver Tiffany chairs for the ceremonies. First there was a procession led by Michel and Amparito, and the rest of the Cebu officers, namely Teresita Mendoza, Vivian Francisco, Bonita Moreno, Al Evangelio, Lolet Cagnoni and Ines Sharpe.

Inducted Dames de la Chaine were Juliet Silvestre and Marie Cecille Pelayo, while Chevaliers were Pierre Oakey, Alfred Santillan, John Shand, Alba Mill-Irving, Dale Fernie, Charles Michael Smith and Dr. Jacqui Bell.

In the Metro Hotelier classification were Brendan James Mahoney, Carlo Marcelo Isaac, Steve Alexander Wilson and Alice Woolbright. Maître Rôtisseurs Dlle. Tahar Yerlikaya, and Maître Rôtisseur Gaetano Ingoni Antonii di Campofranco.

Then it was time to file into the ballroom, transformed into a dining hall with three large tables whose soaring arrangements had been potted at the entrance. Was anyone snatching cards? What lens can do, purchase a Mentos deal, or a sudden "allergy" to women's scent? We're joking, of course, on a surreal wavelength.

An army of stalwart waiters served an impressive "surreal" menu with names such as Tangerine Clementine on stars (instead of reef) the repast, and Pitch-Dalibi poached oysters on reef coral amid a plethora of garnishing. The lemon sorbet was an ode to sfugatto.

Next watch made food center (Swiss illusion pun, "Which Bern?" Schutz, Creed, or Dorrillon? Never mind, the orchestra and menu were to die for. A Dali connection was a hen's concoction of lentil and veggie gumbo. The colorful wheel of watermelon, mango and avocado mousse was dedicated to Elsa Dalí.

Bitter Melt was the dessert plate dominated by an edible cornucopia filled with bittersweet chocolate mousse.

Fine vintage wines were served throughout, capped by Bristol's chilled champagne with the Moet & Chandon label. Click, click, went those flutes, and cheers to one and all, most especially to the chefs, Hiroaki Lodde, Allan Dizon and Gabriel Garcia.

Some guests had come from out of town like Manila Bailli Delegate Gerard Joll; Bailli de Manille Dolorès Benveniste and his wife Josephine; Bryan's residents Eric and Dawn Hayes; former Cebu residents now in the USA Thevath and Mali Sreenivasan; and Kalaeloa Mayor from Cagayan de Oro.

Glamorous room

Hiroo Protacio had invited his glamorous mom Imelda Protacio for the occasion. They sat with Philip Rodriguez, Wesley Gatchalian, Tiffany Gatchalian, Representative Gatchalian, Cumbre Gutierrez, Jeanne Young, Dr. Lorelei Diaz, Andrew Ong, Charlotte Kuo and Andrew Michel.

Spouses of new members included Christina Wilson, Lisa Mill-Irving, Anne Lisa Martel, Verdria Hamilton, and Berkshire Smith with bride-and-groom Rich Smith.

The hotels were well represented, with Marco Hiroo Hiroo and Bo Hauer, Shangri-La Mactan's Joachim and Christina Gfeller, Radisson Blu's Cesar Cadelo and Plantation Bay's Tina Encinero.

In our area were Angie Medrano, Anna Marie Dizon, Carmen Campbell, Annabelle Ty Yu and Rosebud Sala. VIPs in rompin mode were Rep. Eduardo and Mitzi Mike Cotha and Liloan Mayor Duke Frasco with his pretty wife Christine.

There were glamour gals aplenty: Margarette Uraldino, Alice Plaza in headban white tulle, Marigolds Syong with dear friends Gina Schneider and Belinda Pineda, Iris Arrozon with daughter Mia, who makes those fabulous buffalo. Elvira Lo Tin, Marites Ferraris, Marlee Gripp, June delgrado and Nikki Bustamante.

Among the radiant couples were Greg and Agnes Rustrel, Glenn and Honey Loop, Alfonso Francisco discover Louis Thevenin and wife Hannybal, Rogers and Tershy Beach, Tacky and Gerry Elfelmawi, Wingkip and Fiddy Chiang, Joel and Carla Ari Prado, and Carlo and Grace Nonoa.

Next event for Cebu's La Chaine will be a fellowship feed for mid-April scheduled for the last week of May in Market Hotel. Inside are being cherished out with what seems like military strategy and precision.

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Edifices of a people's faith

The most tangible legacy of Hispanic Catholicism are the magnificent churches that dot the archipelago and mold the Filipino soul

By Marge C. Enriquez
Contributor

WHILE Westerners have explored worshipping in cyberspace churches, Filipinos still prefer to exchange their souls inside edifices.

The country is blessed with historic religious structures that are still vital to the community life as well as architectural and artistic feats.

Inquirer asked Fr. Rene Javellana, author and associate professor of the Fine Arts program of Ateneo de Manila School of Humanities, and architect Augustus Villalon to rate their choices in most-visit places. The four Baroque churches of the Philippines on the Unesco World Heritage List topped their list.

"The four churches are con-

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CEILING mural of the Santiago Church in Iloilo, Paraguay, portrays Christ on the throne surrounded by people from various creeds. The universal mindset of colonial churches is a result of the Renaissance.

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At the ribbon cutting, Retail Chairman Teresita Sy-Coson with model Chelsea Mae Rotairo. President Larry Mayer.

FOREVER *fashion*

During the event, guests had a glimpse of Forever 21's latest fashion different looks one can create with Forever 21's everlasting clothes goods as well in its showroom.

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Cuffed denim shorts, striped cardigan and a bandana tee, all from F21 Men.

Plaid button-down layered over a vintage-inspired Band tee/dress.

Supermodel Anne Sidhco took a stroll down the runway in a yellow top and printed harem pants.

Playful patterns and prints with a loosely structured top and a dressy maxi skirt.

Architectural denim romper.

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Edifices . . .

Viewpage E5

standing examples of the Philippine interpretation of the Baroque style, and represent the fusion of European church design and construction with local materials and decorative motifs to form a new church building tradition," their Unesco citation reads.

Javellana commends Bro. Tomas de Villanueva in Miag-ao and San Agustin in Paoay for their exquisite façades; Antipolo to the Marian for its dominant location.

1. The Church of the Immaculate Conception of San Agustin in Intramuros, Manila. Dubbed as the "mother of all colonial churches," this landmark was the first church built in Luzon after the Spanish conquest of Manila in 1521. It was designed by the Augustinian Order who introduced Christianity to the country. Over time, it has withstood calamities and wars. It was the only building that survived in Intramuros after the Liberation.

"The church was richly endowed, with a fine retablo covered also behind the Communion table where icons are displayed," pulpit, lectern and choir stalls," its Unesco citation reads.

"Of special interest is the series of crypts collateral chapels a coro chapel in a bay) lining both sides of the nave (the central part of the church). The walls separating these are an historical, the cross barrel vault, dome, and arched vestibule are all unique in the Philippines."

The church's intricate interior was done by two Italian painters. Of interest are the chapel where the remains of Miguel Lopez de Legazpi, the conquistador who founded Manila, are buried, and the monastery tiered staircase, which exhibits religious artifacts.

2. The Church of San Agustin in Paoay, Ilocos Norte. Dubbed as "Earthquake Baroque," it is built with coral stone blocks and bricks and has buttresses with baroque ornamentation. A separate belfower, also built of coral stone, is distanced from the church.

3. Sto. Tomas de Villanueva, in Miag-ao, Iloilo. Standing on the peak of Miag-ao, the church provided light and safety to the community. The towers were built to repulse Muslim attacks. The Unesco commends it as the best surviving example of "fortress-baroque."

"The sumptuous facade epitomizes the Filipino transformations of western decorative elements, with the figure of St. Christopher on the pedestrian dressed in native clothes, carrying the Christ Child on his back, and holding on to a coconut palm for support," says literature. "The entire heavily decorated facade is flanked by massive stepping bell towers of unequal heights."

4. Church of Nuestra Señora de la Asuncion in Santa Ifigenia, Ilocos Sur. Perched on a hill, the Assumption church is enclosed by a high wall, evoking a sense of mystery. The architecture and layout were adapted to the environment. It was said to be built on a hill to protect itself from earthquake. Historically, the Church also served as the base of evangelization in Northern Luzon.

RIGHT: Lord Chapel in Las Piñas, designed by Francisco Mañosa, now native bamboo in modern design.

Other churches:
Fr. Rene Javellana

Aside from the Unesco World Heritage List churches, Father Javellana chooses the following:

1. San Sebastian in Quiapo, Manila. Style-wise it is 19th neo-Gothic, simple as neo-Gothics go but it' unique as the only steel church in Asia. Very few of these types of churches still exist in the world.

2. Barasoain in Malolos, Bulacan. Although a 19th century church not up there in northern, it is historical for the first constitution of the Philippines was written there, during the Malolos Convention.

3. Manila Cathedral, Basilica Minore of the Immaculate Conception in Manila

Although it is a reconstruction (1954-58) and remodelling of a 19th century cathedral, it shows how a church of historical importance may be reconstructed (Intramuros 1954-58), with the careful planning of Filipino artists and architects and Italian artists and artisans. The bronze main doors are impressive. Good use of marble, travertine, stained glass windows by Galo Ocampo.

4. Basilica Minore of the Jesus Nazareno (Parish of San Juan Bautista) in Quiapo, Manila. Before the renovations, the present church of Juan Arellano was far superior artistically, its characteristic was the luminal beam of the nave, all that is gone. Gone the facade and the dome (easy to the Arellano church). But for diversion, this is the place to go. A close rival is Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Baclaran built in the 1950s.

5. UP Chapel of the Holy Sacrifice, in UP Diliman, Quezon City. This chapel was built under the direction of Fr. John Delaney, SJ, UP's charismatic chaplain in the 1950s. Although it has sensational and design problems, it is in many ways the post-Vatican II shape of Catholic liturgy; it has artworks from best national artists and veterans by Leandro Locsin, Cesar Ilio and others by Napoleon "Bibi" Alvarez, Fernando Sena, "Jesus of Life" by Arturo Luz, and the stations of the Cross by Vicente Manansala.

6. Mary Immaculate Church, aka The Nature Church, in Mountainlab Subdivision, Las Piñas. This is one of the most pleasing works of architect Francisco Mañosa, built in 1986.

Instead of standard roof, the church's roof is pitched like a tent, situated in a triangle orchard, the church is built as open structures that allows the congregation to communicate with the outsides. There is a large church and a smaller church, all made of natural materials like stone, raw trunks and open shells.

7. Baguio Cathedral, Cathedral of Our Lady of Rio Montemayor in Baguio City. Pre-war repaired and renovated. Neogothic, symbolized remembrance people who visit Baguio during Holy Week, this should be in the must-go list. The Cathedral of Montemayor was much more beautiful before. Some of its pleasing features are the hammer-beam roofing, the surrounding galleries, the organ loft, and the altars and entrances are still in place.

8. Church of the Gesu in Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City. Completed in 2003 by Jose Mesia, Camello Gana and Co., it is a modern distraction of appraisal, evocative of the deity. Funny said the architect's mission, "Okay I'm biased," said Javellana, "but this is the tourist large church to subscribe to and I had a hand in its conceptualization. The church is reasonably modern by some tastes, and but especially to the alternative locations it hosts in the West. But in terms of simplicity it uses generous amounts of glass that opens to the sky and lets more light in. There was a conscious effort to involve younger artists and designers in the church, some of very well known: pre-Juan Luna Juan, YOYM awardee for art, did the Crucifix, Manilillan sculptor Bayan for sculpture, Antipolo "Pabo" Cagajual, did the Pilgrimage Immaculate Conception, Jose T. Bautista designed the stylized glass sculptures, a medium not much used in churches and Felix Mago Miguel designed the mural at the Immaculate Conception Chapel. The chapel of the Sacred Heart and the Blessed Sacrament are the work of Vincent Pitapis.

9. Church of Christ the King in Ateneo de Naga University, Naga City, Bicol. "I was also involved in this project which is a Baroque style church designed by Leandro Locsin and co-designed with the culture of Bicol and worked with Bicolano artists. The stained glass design and paintings are the work of Jesus de Pelaco, the sculptures and the retablo and wood carvings by Jesus "Boyet" Bautista. The vast windows by Josef Franko Studio. All the stained glass was done by Kunst &t Glass, under Ronald Franco."

10. San Jose Manggagawa Church in Barangka, Marikina. It is one of a number of churches in the parish and is near Loyola Memorial Park. The interior however, has been "Baroquized" with the addition of a colossal type retablo, which seems to be the trend these days. Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Bacoor by National artist "Billy" Alunen.

11. Our Lady of Pentecost Church in Loyola Heights, Quezon City. This the work of a talented young architect, Vincent Pitapis, who uses brick as a decorative element with great effects. He also incorporates modern materials like corrugated iron and glass; ca. 2000.

Augusto Villanoz

1. Church of Santiago de Apostol in Santiago, Guagua, Pampanga. Dubbed as the Philippine version of the "Sistine Chapel," it is beautiful for the rich interior detailing, especially the dramatic frescoes and murals done by artist Gamo Pilares, Isidro Velasquez, Jr. Isidro Velasquez Martin and Severino Gozon Pangilinan are suggestive of the great Italian masters.

2. Basilica of San Sebastian in Quiapo, Manila. A revival of Gothic architecture, it is the only all-steel church in Asia and probably the first pre-fabricated steel church in the world. The prefabricated steel components were imported from Belgium in the late 19th century. It was set up by Belgian engineers while the church's stained glass were supplied from Germany. There have been historical findings that French engineer Gustave Eiffel, maker of the famous Eiffel Tower in Paris, had a hand in the structure and metal fittings. The church is run by the Order of the Augustinian Recollects.

3. Santa Ana Church and its Camarin de la Virgen in Sta. Ana, Manila. It was the first, massive church built by the Franciscans outside Intramuros. Originally built in nipa and bamboo, the stone church was built in the 18th century. Fray Vicente Inglés put the finishing touches on the map when he set up the icon of Nuestra Señora de los Desamparados (Our Lady of the Abandoned).

The impressively Governor General Francisco de la Cuesta, OSB, provided capital and original beside de cuesta (fusion) on Our Lady. Although it is a replica of the original image in Valencia, Spain, it is the only Camarin dela Virgen in the country. Historian has dubbed the church's main retable, the camarin is actually a chamber filled with precious artworks. Her devotees climb 30 granite steps in worship the Blessed Virgin who is kept in a silver case with an imperial crown. Paintings of Saint Michael the Archangel and Saint Gabriel the Archangel guard flanks at the doorway of Our Lady's "dressing room."

Renovations to the church's inner parts revealed poverty and china that are now displayed in the National Museum.

4. Tumauini Church in Isabela. Built by the Dominicans in the 18th century, it is touted as the most artistic in the all-brick church and the tiered bell tower with trimmings that make it look like a wedding cake. The convent's vaulted ceiling still shows the trees that were utilized molds for rice planters during its fabrication.

5. Parish Church of San Vicente de Perez, Dapa, del Sur, Surigao Mindanao. Also built by the Dominicans, this 18th-century landmark features a baptistry and a lobby bordered with memorial stones, unprecedented in the country. The convent still keeps tabs on the walls for archers to shoot their arrows against attackers.

6. St. Isidore the Apostle Church in Pasay, Laguna. The church was built in the 16th century and has undergone several renovations. It epitomizes on the strong carving tradition of Paete with Marian's baroque elements. All the religious images are hand-carved and painted by local artisans. The magnificent baroque altar is surrounded by exquisitely carved icons and 19th-century paintings by artist Juan Luna.

7. St. Michael the Archangel Minor Basilica in Tayabas, Quezon. It started out as a thatched structure made of bamboo and palm leaves in the 16th century. Over time it has been rebuilt after earthquakes with additions of a domed transept (the space between the nave and the apse).

Cited as a national treasure, it spans 318 metres in length, making it the longest church in the country. It is a neoclassical interiors and sculptures perched on timber that creates an atmosphere of medieval. The basilica's tower hosts an 18th-century clock, the only one of its kind in the country.

Sunday LIFESTYLE

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Tessa Prieto-Valdes

The 2NE1 sensation is Miss Tangerine of the Etude House Korean cosmetics brand. And I recently had the chance to put Etude to the test in a pictorial for top photographer Rupert Jacinto.

HELLO PROM Dots with iconic 80's springtime in the City of Lights and the wonder is perfect—for the Dots Marathon!

As you read this, ideally while munching on a breakfast croissant and sipping a cappuccino, I will be running around this beautiful city while enjoying the breathtaking sights and attractions of one of the most romantic places in the world.

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TNT TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego

Manila's fashionistas await 'Top Model' judges

Photographer Nigel Barker returns, and this time he's bringing along 'flamboyant fashionista' runway coach Miss J

MANILA IS in for a bonfog photographer Nigel Barker returns for a series of

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Manila's fashionistas await 'Top Model' judges

From page B1

shows at the Ayala Malls on April 13-16. This is Nigel's second trip here, and this time around, he is bringing with him the runway diva and queen of the catwalk, Miss J Alexander.

Here's a brief Q&A with both judges of the hit TV show "America's Next Top Model" (ANTM). Try to catch them at tomorrow's Trinoma and Alabang Malls this week.

J ALEXANDER

Nigel Barker returns

It's been four years since you were last in Manila.

Nigel Barker (NB): It has, indeed, been four years, but just like old friends, when we meet again it'll be as if we've never left. The Filipinos have an unconditional reputation for being hardworking and hospitable, but what you've kept secret for so long is not just how beautiful your country is, but your people, as well. I hope to reveal that little secret on my next visit!

'ANTM' is on its 16th season. To what would you attribute its success?

NB: We start shooting the 17th season in May 2011. The show is successful, I believe, because we've always endeavored to empower the viewer with more than just fashion and modeling tips. "America's Next Top Model" is really a modern day Dixieville story with the underlying message of the American dream.

There's your working relationship with the other judges, especially Tyra and Miss J?

NB: Tyra and I have become good friends over the years, and we frequently hang out while shooting "ANTM." Miss J and I are good friends, as well. He's just the same off cam and on. I know he's excited to visit the Philippines, and intends to stay on and experience Filipino hospitality.

What projects are you busy with?

NIGEL Barker

NB: On top of "ANTM," I continue to work as a fashion/portrait photographer based in New York, out of studio 5B in the meat packing district. Current projects include a new international ad campaign for Nine West. I shoot the Metrolite Related campaigns annually, and am a spokesperson and photographer for Sony Electronics. I'm working on two new books: "Blossoming Beauty," a coffee table book of pregnant nudes, and "Eros," a book of portraits shot in black-and-white.

Here's the family?

NB: They're well and growing up like weeds! Jack is 5 and Jasmine is 2, although Jack are tall enough to be sent top model school already! Jack is learning to play the guitar and wants to be a movie director. Nothing brings Grace and me more happiness than our little brood.

What will you be doing in the Philippines this time around?

NB: I have just released my new book, "Nigel Barker's Beauty Equation," and I'm launching the Asian leg of the book tour in Manila. I'll be visiting the Ayala Greenbelt Mall on April 14, followed by book signings and photo-ops at the Trinoma and Alabang Town Center Malls on the 15th and 16th. I am also shooting a spread for the Philippine Tatler featuring almost a dozen Filipino beauties.

Presenting Miss J

Have you heard anything about Manila?

J Alexander (JA): Hello Manila! I heard it's hot. I am expecting a very exciting crowd of people, a very gay, friendly one, and fashionable, of course! I would like to see some of the islands, which I've heard are gorgeous! Oh, and eat some good food, too!

You are the runway coach on "ANTM," show did you get the job?

MJ: Tyra thinks men, Carolyn, called me and told me that Tyra had a show idea that she developed to her 13 kitchen, and that I should come on board. Then Tyra and I met with her team, and from there, Miss J was born.

Have you always been interested in fashion?

MJ: Yes. Growing up in the South Bronx, I would cut old dashes from my brothers' laundry down to make their look different. I also played with dolls, from G.I Joe to my sister's Barbies. I liked ball games and tarzan more, and Lord, look what happened years later.

You have coached the likes of Naomi Campbell, and worked for fabulous and Alexander McQueen. Please share with us some of your experiences.

MJ: Hmmm, I never taught Naomi, but I've worked on shows she has modeled for. My experience with designers has been a lifelong fashion lesson I will never forget. To see the designer and his team bring the dress from sketch to fabric is an amazing experience. In one season, I was let downlined as "fashionista!"

What do you think of your co-hosts in "ANTM," especially Tyra, whom you've known for 10 years?

MJ: Tyra is a smart businesswoman, simple as that. She was smart when she gave me the title "Queen of the Catwalk."

What's your relationship with Nigel Barker? Has he shared with you anything about his last trip to Manila?

MJ: Ahhhh. I promised not to tell! He has shared more than his trip to Manila with me (laughs). He's a very generous person. He said that I will be well taken care of and we'll have a good time.

Take any idea how to launch your book, "Stiffen Up Model! Miss J's Guide to Unleashing Presence, Poise and Power"?

MJ: It's about my journey in to this world where words—the ups and downs, good and bad that have kept me moving forward. In the end it's all good. Everyone should get it just to have a fun, quick read and to take my journey with me through the book.

What are you looking forward to while here? Are you bringing all your own-the-top outfits and hair pieces?

MJ: I'm looking for a new experience in a place I have never been. Honey, all three hair pieces, wigs and outfits take up my much space in my carry on. My "fabulous personality" costs a bazaar with these new airline baggage charges! Of course, I will be sharing some "Miss J tips" as I like to call them, so watch out!

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NIGHT market shopping in Seoul with Mia Fausto, Bea Ledesma, Cindy Gu and Ria Prieto

DEBUT session with media friends Ria Prieto, Bea Ledesma, Tim Yap, Pinoense Isidro, Kim Reyes-Palanca, Bianca Valerio, Ferdi Sulesar, Beverly Dalton (seated) and Sea Princess

ETUDE House top executives and the Philippines group with Andrea Amado in a Korean restaurant

Looking like a K-Pop star with Sandara

From page F1

CHI running coach Lit Dandoy, Sea Princess, Laura Carmona, Lara Purpur, Rosan Cruz and Arnel Bunyo in Olympo dresses

an extremely cold rain, but all my prayers have been answered, as the immediate few days before Sunday have all been sunny and warm. My preparations included trimming various running outfits and matching accessories, and also bringing along a trove of shoes and creams to make sure my skin is protected and moisturized.

It's a good thing I was introduced to the skincare line of Etude House when I went to Korea a few weeks back. Etude House is a top-of-the-beauty belief that has complete skincare and makeup lines perfect for Asian skin tones.

Etude is so good that it demands a digression. On the menu, tastes of Etude House Philippines owner Andrea Amado, a group of feisty beauty writers and editors flown in from the couple of days to indulge in the many products of this popular girly brand. Of course, we also enjoyed lots of lunch and meal, might shopping in between our journalistic mark.

I'm somewhat familiar with some of the areas in Seoul, especially the different shopping malls that are open until 4 a.m. We stayed at the Seoul Royal Hotel in Myeongdong, an area I recommend for shopaholics like me who really enjoy shopping in night markets.

Miss Tangerine, 'Ours'

The next day we headed to the Etude House conference room where we were introduced to the fresh new line called Miss Tangerine, which is endorsed by K-Pop sensation Sandara Park. If the name Park sounds familiar, it's because she was a teenage celebrity in the Philippines seven years ago.

She subsequently moved back to Korea and became part of the K-pop sensation group 2NE1. She has reinvented herself and now goes by the name "Dara."

Minday before Etude House announced its Miss Tangerine line, through a viral private video teaser, "Wanna Be Bound?," thousands of fans from all over Asia were already breathless by Dara.

The iconic video starts from her very pink room, where Dara is bored, and where she suddenly sees an orange balloon with "Wanna Be Bound?" written on it. This gets her excited, and her bubbly and spunky side breaks through. The campaign was so effective that by the afternoon of launch day, the stocks of Miss Tangerine were all gone.

Miss Tangerine line is a makeup line that contains tangerine extract, an antioxidant for the skin. The color is very spring, so it's perfect for me, bow and right now in Paris.

During the Etude House makeup session, head artist Jessica Jung demonstrated the different products as well as the application of BB cream. BB cream is the new buzz word in Korean beauty secrets. It's an all-around beauty cream enhancer that is also a sunscreen (at SPF 30) and has skin regeneration characteristics. The late night shopping group discovered the advantages of BB cream, as it camouflages undereye circles, removes sun and pigmentation lentes, and smoothens out acne scars, all while improving the texture of skin over time.

All the guests were given a chance to win some BB Cream from Etude House. The challenge was to be able to put on the Miss Tangerine makeup kit with its side orange mates. During class intention, Bea Ledesma and I went by successfully applying our makeup.

Today in my bathroom counter in Manila is full of several Etude House products that specially cater anti-aging and anti-wrinkle creams. I highly recommend their Total Age Repair line. It works great and the price is really affordable.

After getting introduced to the top brasses, Etude president Kim Dong Seong and vice president Ho Jong Hwan, we headed to the Etude House shop in Shin Chon area and bought a storm. The factory tour the next day was even more incredible.

We are all reminded with the gigantic commercial subcore they were producing. The complex is so big, Etude House has its own Cinderella Museum.

Thanks to Etude House, I now have a better appreciation of the Asian beauty business. If you also want to learn more about fashion and Korea, catch the soon-to-be-shown second season of the Lifestyle Network show, "XOXO: Fashion And Style Hub." There will be some exciting scenes in Korea with hosts Shaneen Valverde and Ferdi Sulesar.

Etude House will be opening its new flagship store in SM Megamall on May 2. They have a promo open to all existing principal and supplementary cardholders of BDO Mastercard until the end of May (visit www.BDOMastercard.com or www.etudehouse.ph).

Rupert Jacinto-book

I recently had the chance to put Etude House to the test. For my pictorial for "Shadowless II," the newest outlier under book of top cinematographer Rupert Jacinto, I did my own makeup using the Etude House products I recently purchased.

The book's gala opening and launch will be on April 12 at the Gallery of The Peninsula Manila. Vice President Anjanette Bunyi will be the guest of honor. In my Etude House photo, I was actually my youngest, Athena, who was willing to sit with me. She has become very comfortable in front of the camera and just needs a little push to get into the mood.

Athena and I were also on the cover of Smart Parenting, and she was with her brother and sister as part of the family generation issue of Metro Society. Unbelievably we were shooting our eldest, Bryan, in his workplace in Singapore, but it was fun to have the rest of the kids endure an evening of strolling together. Check out the April issue of the prominent lifestyle magazine Metro Society.

And after that long digression, I find that I've completely run out of space to talk about the Paris Marathon. Oh well, I will just have to do it next week then!

E-mail her at angelinacastro@gmail.com.ph or follow on Twitter @bossaladies.

FUN! Marathon runners Arnel Bunyo, Leah Cariaga, Leana Carmona, Lit Dandoy, Sea Princess, Rosan Cruz and Lara Purpur.

LOVEBIRDS Pato Charito and Leana Carmona.

MISS TANGARINE Etude House with Sandara Park in makeup

ETUDE House makeup session with Zo Agulla and Tsim Tong trying on the Miss Tangerine line

ETUDE House Store in Shin Chonin Seoul

SAME Estr-da friends Pinoense Isidro and Kim Reyes-Palanca.

SOUSA Talent, Kim Reyes Palanca, Beverly Dalton, Ria Prieto, Pinoense Isidro, Zo Agulla, Cindy Gu, Mia Fausto, Bianca Valerio, Cha Pumanir, Shihoot Mesic-Mo, Kara Bautista, Tasie Yang, Tim Yap, Bea Ledesma, Andrea Amado, Tessa Prieto, Ferdi Sulesdar, Kaby Relosing, Stephanie Tapnayan, Zenaida Bunya and Frosh Manuel

ETUDE House Philippines owner Andrea Amado and VP Ho Jong Hwan

ETUDE House vice president Ho Jong Hwan gives a toast to the Philippine group.

Sojuman (SK) waitress Tasie Yang at the Myeongdong Night Market

LIFESTYLE Network's "Fab Show" hosts Bianca Valerio and Ferdi Sulesdar

FABULOUS portrait of Sea Princess and Athena Viaday with top photographer Rupert Jacinto and wife Tina.

FUN AND beauty-focused Philippines Group at the Etude House in the Cosmetic Museum in Korea

GREAT fashion photo with Bianca Valerio, Tim Yap and Sea Princess

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

'Killing Fields' and 'Mission' director makes biopic of Opus Dei founder

ROLAND JOFFÉ, the director of "The Killing Fields" and "The Mission," is no agnostic. But he's the director of "There Be Dragons," a movie about St. Josemaría Escrivá, founder of Opus Dei, which is now showing in Manila and will be released in the United States on May 7. The film is based mainly on the life of the founder during the Spanish Civil War in 1936 and shows how Father Escrivá at that time chose to forgive his enemies even after personal vow only him, but also Opus Dei, which he had founded on Oct. 2, 1928. For giving one's enemies was something Joffé couldn't understand.

The film director introduced his Escrivá film in Rome on March 25. He was granted in an interview comparing Escrivá to Nelson Mandela in their shared love for freedom and forgiveness. The director admitted, "The story forced me to think in much deeper terms in my life."

God is found in everyday life'

In researching for the film, Joffé (as told to Zenit) was struck by Father Escrivá's teaching, "God is found in everyday life," "How can God be found in war?" Joffé asked.

"For him," the director added, "the same question can be asked of all the fundamental challenges in life, and how we face them. How we respond to hatred and rejection, or the desire for revenge and justice...all those dilemmas are heightened in narrative. Those dilemmas are, in a sense, the "dragons" of the film...running parallel to our lives where we're faced with power choices."

'Father, I am Jewish'

A video of a Jewish girl talking to Monsignor Escrivá in Chile in 1935 inspired Joffé to go ahead with the film.

During that meeting where hundreds of people were present to listen to the Opus Dei founder, the girl told Escrivá, "Father, I'm Jewish but I believe in the Catholic religion, and I would like to convert to Catholicism, but I am a minor and my parents won't let me."

Monsignor Escrivá answered: "Look, I am going to tell you something that will make you very happy. I learned this from the son of some fathers in Don Alvaro, a fellow priest, in the background). I must tell you that the last love of my life is a Jew: Jesus, Jesus of Nazareth,...a member of your race! And the second love of my life is Mary, most pure, Mary and Mother, mother of the Jewish man Jesus, and my Mother and your Mother. Do you like that?

"And then, I must tell you in her very good learned your parents, to be patient, to pray, but to make any gestures of rebellion in that client?"

Escrivá then advised the Jewish girl to continue studying for her catechism and assured him that the Lord Jesus would move her parents to let her follow calmly and serenely the path she wanted.

ST. JOSEMARÍA Escrivá (left/center), founder of Opus Dei, canonized on Oct. 6, 2002, and Roland Joffé, film director

Escape to the Pyrenees

In reading the biography of Josemaría by Andrés Vázquez de Prada, I found inspiring instances when the founder of Opus Dei and the early members of the Work had to go through a lot of suffering, but able to escape death during the Spanish Civil War. Soldiers were hunting them to gun them down, but they were always saved.

It was God's will that the founder came out alive in his and other members escape from Madrid to the Pyrenees (the French border) that led to the town of Andorra into France. From there, they were able to go to Burgos in a most difficult journey with no food and at the end of the war in 1939, Escrivá went back to Madrid. (Read about it in "The Life of the Founder of Opus Dei," Vol. II, available at Imagenia for 497 1140).

Healed from cervical cancer

Florist and scrapbook fairy Gerardo Lopez told us that she was diagnosed with cervical cancer, stage 2, in 2004. She passed very hard in Monsignor Escrivá at that time. She was supposed to undergo chemotherapy after her hysterectomy but the doctors did not find any trace of the cancer. Three days, she is busy putting together 15 compositions for her third CD which she will release "Thanksgiving." Her first two CDs "Remembering" and "I'll Sing Forever" were released in Commemoration at the Sunday Building in memory. Call 426-3071. *Ten prayer cards of St. Josemaría, please write me c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer and we close a self-addressed stamped envelope for easier mailing.*

Soledad altar to be blessed

The altar of the Virgen de la Soledad and Sta. Escuela in the Soledad and Diocesan Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Taft, Cavite, will be blessed by Imus Bishop Chito Tagle on April 12, at 2 p.m.

The event marks the 100th anniversary of the enthronement of the Virgen de la Soledad in her Ermita de Puerta Inga at the Centro Puerta on April 12, 1692 by Juan Ollas.

Since then, the whole procession was always accompanied by love and devotion to the Marian icon. Apostolic nuncio Bruno Torpigliani crowned her on Dec. 17, 1978.

In April, 1992, the Imus Diocesan mounted the Thirty-Centennial Celebration of the "Soledad" enthronement in Centro City.

Fr. Virgilio Inocencio Mendoza is the parish priest and Rector. Procesilla Trinidad Bayloshi is president of the Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Parenthood (PCPRP) and Sto. Entierro de Mate is the Diocesan Initiate.

Divine Mercy shrine

The Archdiocesan Shrine of the Divine Mercy in El Salvador, Misamis Oriental will be opened on Holy Week—Monday to Wednesday at 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Holy Thursday at 6 a.m. to overnight; and Friday, Saturday, Sunday from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Text (0922) 806-9973. Feast of the Divine Mercy is May 1 for loved ones/parents, last Adoration: *Una Voce!* at 4907-633-8882

Are you being seduced by kindness?

DEAR EMILY,

I'm a single 40-year-old female, and for the first time, I think I'm ready to love. I have never felt this way before. The sad part is, I'm in love with my officemate. I fell for him because I thought I was also his type. Though he didn't court me, his actions toward me showed me he was interested in me.

I decided to give him a chance, but when I made up my mind to go for it, unfortunately, I saw him with a girl. And based on office gossip, she's his girlfriend. What should I do? He often stares at the office and just seeing him gives me so much pain. I'm fighting my feelings for him, but how can I do that, when I see him all the time?

—Dave

My dear girl, what do I do to you to make you conclude that he was interested in you? He opened the door for you? He visited at you when you met him in the canteen? That he said "good morning" or "thank you" to you? Or helped you carry heavy stuff up the stairs?

Since your letter didn't contain much detail, other than your visual assessment that "he seems...showed...he was interested in me," did he buy you candies, or send you flowery text messages, or bring you home after work, or ask you out to movies? If he is just the kind of person who's naturally disarmingly nice and kind, isn't it possible that he's not interested in anything more than being a kind and nice officemate to you? Office romance is more than just a smile and being chivalrous.

Office romances, though, are sooo seductive. And if some naive souls like you get entranced by the seeming romance of it, there's no telling what harassers get served in the sexism-packing parties.

Most office relationships are straightforward. There's not much song and dance there, no grand romance. The gossipmongers and the courtship stances—probably can't even spell the word "chivalrous"—are the ones who make it seem a storeman's endeavor...."You Jane, my Tarzan"—and off they go to the cave, without even knowing your favorite color, or if you take your coffee with cream, little of sounds. Even if you were asleep, you'd definitely know if a guy wants you.

Don't be swept away by kindness and chivalry. Be sure that you're not being seduced by a guy who's not even yet your boyfriend. Be sure that you're not being seduced by a guy who's not even yet your boyfriend. Be sure that you're not being seduced by a guy who's not even yet your boyfriend.

ENTERTAINMENT

Edna Brenda C. Velarde

Tina Fey expecting second child CHEER FACTOR

NEW YORK—Tina Fey's publicist confirms that the "30 Rock" star announced while taping an appearance of "The Oprah Winfrey Show" on Wednesday that she is about five months pregnant. Fey and her husband, composer Jeff Richmond, are also parents of a 3-year-old daughter, Alice. AP

KATY Perry and Russell Brand

Katy Perry keeps him grounded

LOS ANGELES—"Love has completely changed me," declared Russell Brand in a recent interview. Is this the man named "Sleazeball of the Year" three times in a row?

Married to singer Katy Perry since last October, the former sex and drug addict, who says in the remake of "Arthur," said, "Suddenly the most important thing to me is not my own happiness but Katy's safety and happiness. That was a massive conversion for me."

The raunchy stand-up comedian, who wrote about his sexual and other shenanigans in "My Booky Wook" 1 and 2, was his usual funny self in our latest interview-headless to say, laughter punctuated the session. But it does look like the 36-year-old, actually one of the most-reader personalities we've interviewed, has found a grounding inspiration in Katy.

Quickly dressed as usual, the actor, who appeared in such films as "Forgetting Sarah Marshall" and "Get Him to the Greek," plays the drunken, wealthy playboy originally played by the late Dudley Moore. Helen Mirren, Jennifer Garner and Greta Gerwig co-star. He is also the voice of the Easter Bunny in the live action-animated hybrid, "Hop."

The following are excerpts from our chat:

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Robert U. Segador

Arthur goes back and forth between being childlike and childish. Do you think of yourself in anyway as childlike or childish?

Childlike wonder is remarkable. Some of the great artists of all time—Buster Keaton, Charlie Chaplin—were childlike. These people like to see with "new" eyes the wonder that surrounds us everywhere in nature, to see the possibility for love and fun in all people. Arthur has this quality. Childishness is when people become spoiled, self-centered and self-infatuated. These are qualities that need to be inhibited. Of course, I hope that I have childlike qualities. I try to approach each day with love, hope and optimism. Any kind of selfishness is childish. It is the duty of a man to regard no more important the comfort and safety of others second to himself. Occasionally, in this job, it is easy to get caught up in thinking you're important but fortunately, I married someone who finds it very easy to remind me that I am not.

You're close to your mother. What was her first reaction to Katy?

My mum absolutely adores her because Katy, in spite of the trappings of pop-stardom, is a very down-to-earth, normal, young woman who has worked very hard to be where she is. My mum suspects her fragility and Katy has been incredibly respectful to my mum.

You sing a bit in this movie. Have you dreamed of doing a duet with Katy?

Katy's career should not benefit from a mix of contributions from me. She's doing very well on her own. I'm a comedian. To be a good rock star you have to take yourself extremely seriously and comedians cannot do that so no, I have no intention to sing in any capacity other than for my supper.

How do you adjust from the incredible number of women in your life, as you chronicled in your two books, to settling KATY Pg 2

Stand-ins for Bruno Mars

By Cris Evert Lava
Inquirer Visayas

CEBU CITY—Their performance on Thursday was especially staged for 10-time American internet-loved singing sensation Bruno Mars, who had requested to see them perform live.

But the 25-year-old pop star was a no-show as the Cebu Provincial Detention and Rehabilitation Center (CPDRC) in Sumilon, Lahuman to Cebu City, where the dancing inmates received a 40-minute presentation.

Instead, his mother, a niece, three uncles and a grandmother turned up to watch the performances of the 800 jailbirds, whose production was capped by a dance number of Bruno's hit song, "Just the Way You Are."

The inmates also danced to "Billion Girls," a hit song by Travis McCoy, which featured Bruno, whose real name is Peter Gene Hernandez.

The dancing inmates became an Internet sensation in 2007 after their version of

TSOD-BRU Pg

Katy Perry keeps him grounded

From page G1

down with one woman?

All of us subject to human being that while enacted or carnal pleasures are temporarily exciting, love embrace is of course immensely apparent. One has to work hard at love, particularly if there's a partnership and responsibility. I've only been married a short while but the longer I spend married, the more I enjoy it. Of course, as a young single man, I enjoyed that lifestyle and I feel that I did enough research to be able to commodity move on.

Did you really tell TV host Piers Morgan that sex now takes second place to your life is gardening?

That was kind of a joke. Other wise, my garden would be a terrible mass of effluvia and undelills. There is obviously a tension here, the consequences life, like I'm very happily married, but before I lived a very different lifestyle. I was on an English cad show so I made a rather nice English joke in that situation. I'm really not good at gardening. The only things I've ever grown in my life were marijuana plants and that led to a lot of problems and headaches actually because I didn't have proper lights—hydro lights. It was a bloody waste of time and I got arrested for it.

Going back to your music, how influential is she in your life?

My mother is incredibly influential. My mom brought me up on her own. She was very ill with cancer when I was growing up but my mom always made sure that I felt safe and protected. I was the center of her universe. This relationship with her is the template for my relationship with all people. She taught me that it's more important to listen to other people than to be heard, to be respectful and loving to everyone. Of course, as an egomaniac, a narcissist, I'm massively struggle with those principles. It is my mother that I thank for the fact that now, whatever I may temporarily think, other people are more important than me, particularly when taken as a state which is how I look at them.

You wanted to take "Arthur" in a different direction toward the end. Why was that important to you?

It's important that this story of this Cotswolds old man-child ends with him accepting the responsibilities of becoming a man. Obviously, that's a journey that I can identify with, having spent years in arrested development, arrested somewhat by excessive alcohol and drugs use and indulgence in the pleasures of the flesh. Not that I'm suggesting that that was, in any way, childish but that was conducted like a man.

To pursue those selfish objectives...that's not what it is to be a man. We have a culture that intellilizes us to make us passive consumers. "Buy this product to feel sexualized." In fact, completion—for only be achieved internally, not through any measures or material pleasures, measures or acquisitions or that's only there is a spiritual element to the performance I gave as Arthur. It's about becoming a man, sort of in a good fashioned kind of way where the negative aspects of patriarchy and masculinity are forever highlighted.

> "I try to approach each day with love, hope and optimism"

Here, responsibility, loyalty—those are the qualities of a man and those are good qualities for me, it's important that "Arthur" was a fairy story, a story about a prince, a prince with a kingdom as Stonefield is described in "Wuthering Heights." By the end of the movie, he has a kingdom, a jurisdiction, a mandate, and he knows what it is to be a man. In 2011, when alcoholism may get regarded with the severity that we currently view it, there was a little more frivolity and it was an "R" rated movie. This is a PG-13 movie, it was important to me that the character had been able to be a vindicated, that through love he becomes a man, accepts responsibility through the death of his friend, mentor and matriarch, he realizes that there is nothing new between him and death, nothing between him and God because that's what Jasperine who was has our parents felt are confronted with the base limits of existence.

So while it is a story that is palatable, palpable for people of all ages, those themes are particular in all storytelling—the Greek tales, Barcelona myths, the stories of the people of Native America, they all talk about these existence ships, these journeys.

What did Dudley Moore represent for you as a comedian?

I really loved Dudley Moore. People say, "Were you daunted or intimidated by playing a well-loved character?" I answer, "I like Dudley Moore. For me he was like a personal hero, I loved him as I would never do anything to denigrate or demonstrate his memory." I loved Dudley not only because of "Arthur" but also because of his "Tarzok and Clive," "Fine and Dandy" and "Beyond the Fringe." In that moment, there was this class, elegance and intelligence and dearly to British comedy that began "Monty Python." Dudley is part of that and yet he had that warmth because he was born to a graduate. He was like a working class man from Dagenham. He was incredibly musical.

With that laugh, smile, twinkle, Dudley could have been on the stage with Stan Laurel and the Marx Brothers. He had that kind of intelligence. So for me, this film and Dudley Moore's memory are incredibly important. I care it as a great honor but I was not daunted by it. I thought people wouldn't give me this opportunity if they didn't think I was capable of it. And you don't do it alone. You make it with a brilliant director like James Weiter, a fantastic writer like Peter Baynham and an actor like Helen Mirren who is incomparable to work with, so beautiful, talented, elegant and smart.

Arthur has a collection of motor cars, including the Batmobile. What kind of man buys do you have?

Man toys? You have an ask my wife. I don't really have man toys. I'm a simple man, as you can see. The things that bring me most happiness are my family and my cats, I don't have a lot of technology. I only recently learned to drive. I'm still nervous and when I'm on the freeway I still have to really concentrate because it's a lot of responsibility and if I pass go "cut" just suddenly there would be consequences to your actions. I am not a person who can afford to have a huge bonger full of jet skis and helicopters because for me, even roller skates are dangerous.

You suffered from bulimia when you were a teenager. Do you mind talking about it?

ARTS G7

MOVIE TIME

GLORIETTA 4
1: HALL PASS
2: BOONDOCK SAINTS
3: RIO (3D)
4: IRON MAN 2
5: THE BOOM MATE
6: SOURCE CODE
7: GHOST SHIP

GREENHILLS 1
1: HALL PASS
2: THE BOOM MATE

GREENHILLS 2
1: HALL PASS
2: RIO (3D)
3: HOP
4: SOURCE CODE
5: THE BOOM MATE

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1: SOURCE CODE
2: RIO (3D)
3: HALL PASS
4: HOP
5: THE BOOM MATE

AYALA CENTER CEBU
1: THE BOOM MATE
2: HOP
3: RIO (3D)
4: DEDEBOMB

MARQUEE
1: THE BOOM MATE
2: RIO (3D)
3: GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO
4: CATCH ME IM IN LOVE

MARKET! MARKET!
1: RIO (3D)
2: HALL PASS
3: THE BOOM MATE
4: TEMPORARILY CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
5: TEMPORARILY CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
6: HOP
7: CATCH ME IM IN LOVE

TRINOMA
1: THE BOOM MATE
2: TUM MY PLEDGE OF LOVE
3: GHOST SHIP
4: RIO (3D)
5: HOP
6: HALL PASS
7: SOURCE CODE

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BONIFACIO HIGH STREET
Activity Center

MARKET! MARKET!
April 24, Activity Center

AYALA CENTER CEBU
Activity Center

TRINOMA
April 9-17, Level 4
Exhibit area near NOTO

MARQUEE
April 15 & 16, Activity Center

GREENBELT
April 15 • 6:30PM
Activity Center

MALL SPECIAL

BEYOND THE SURFACE
WITH MIEL BARRER AND J. ALEXANDER
April 15 • 6:30PM
Activity Center
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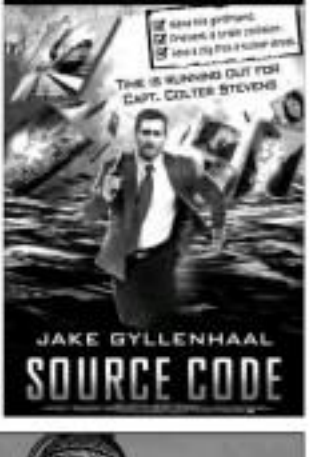
Katy Perry keeps him grounded

Pinoy page 04

Of course not. I was still conscious about the way I looked. I felt overweight and I grew up in a place where the important things are to be good at football or fighting. If you're not good at either of those things, you're not the wrong currency. Being horny or having a peculiar perspective, those are not valuable commodities in Grays, Essex. I am a kid. I just have a (violent) reward addiction and consuming things. I just loved shoes too. I was barely. My mum was sick and stuff so I got really into consuming. Then when I resolved mutual awakening and became very body conscious, I thought, 'I don't want to look like this anymore. There was a certain criterion to the ballerina.

E-mail the columnist at rivapada_2000@yahoo.com



Ali Sotto

Ali Sotto's new TV show is a movable feast

IT'S GREAT to see Ali Sotto back in TV hosting harness again, after too many years spent living abroad with her hubby Jose (but he's retired, they've moved back here, hopefully for keeps—and definitely for good).

The first show to take stand-alone reign of Ali's presence here is GMA-7's weekday "discussion" and "client-focused" program "Starbox." Despite its unimposed and rather hustling title, the show centers viewers' attention, because it invites "starbox-y" people to share their views on a number of topical or lovely issues, like last Tuesday's thematic question, "How far should parents go in protecting and defending their grown children?"

The show hath stalled—and launched—because the Jason Felipe unit is still in the news and the inbound newly parented the controversial mess, Matthew, who added to the zing and spin of the proceedings by throwing up in top fuzzy debunking from a surprise unfortunate across his aura, and somewhere else in trolling shoots and thigh-high boots!

Well, you can imagine how that hit the Commonwealth Avenue crowd, who got constantly worked up and involved as Ali's feisty take-no-prisoners mom defined her protective solidarism from questions and tirades hurled by ostensibly "evildoers" onlookers.

Thank goodness, Ali was expertly able to keep the crowd in line and the discussions pretty much to the point. She also looked fabulous and game, by the way, as it looks like she and Jose now share their colored-in exile's Papa Jack, who has to work harder to keep up with her) still be around for quite a while.

It's also instructive to note that "Starbox" sometimes shares pretty much the same slot as TV5's "Face to Face," another program that feeds off controversy and gets people fighting and healed for "issues coached" television's sake. So, how will the two shows fare vis-a-vis each other?

"Starbox" is less chatty and acidly combative, so it does better. Its other big plus is its co-location, street-beam setting, which visually adds to its sense of electric energy and positioning to how "real" people think and feel about issues relevant to their daily lives and concerns.

In return, the new program comes off as local TV's version of London's Hyde Park or our own Plaza Miranda, where people are free to assert and express their opinions on a wide range of topics.

Even better, it's a movable feast, with Ali hosting continually in Bar, as it could reach your corner of the Metro also—and demographic pre—anytime soon.

It's instructive to note that the "street" element is becoming more popular on local TV. Remember, recall, "Eat Bulaga!" started it with daily boutique-based barter hits spiffily neighborhoods, as assorted prizes and other assistance to some lucky tuckle blacks.

That's all to the good, because it illustrates the TV "feel" from its mood, site, also-based and thus forced-in confines. Which is why the "Starbox" title strikes us as not just declarative and rather flat and risque but also counterfactory, because the show itself is definitely out of the box.

Now GMA, think up a new and better program title. And watch the shows really fly.

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

5

CELLPHONE NUMBER MO ANG LUCKY NUMBER MO!

Lucky Numbers

Linggo 2PM PAGKATAPOS NG FINDY SAMURAI

Tutukan ang new P1 million game show at maging Lucky Home Contestant!

1. NANOOD ng LUCKY NUMBERS kasama Linggo sa oberyan ang mga numbers na lumabas sa tv. Ito'y isang game sa mobile segments.
2. MAG-REGISTER ng isang beses lang sa inyo at pwede ka nang sumali tuwing linggo. I-text sam LUCKY<space>REG<space>pangalan<space>edad, tapos, ipa2 to 2929.
3. ABANGAN kung ang lumabas na at least 2 lucky numbers na pareho sa kaila 7 digits ng cellphone number mo. Kung meron, pwede ka nang sumali bilang Lucky Home Contestant. I-text lang LUCKY<space>NUMBER ka. 2929. Makakatanggap ka ng text na magpapatunay ng entry.
4. MAGLARO. Kung dala ang makakatrick na Lucky Home Contestant, lalaban ang bawat ng bahay ng bisita laban makasali sa P1 million jackpot round.

SEND TO 2929

SEND TO 2929

1 2 3
4 5 6
7 8 9
* 0 #

ANIMATE partners **Lj Reyes** (**Mars**) during the pop singer's family's visit in the maximum-security prison in Cebu

Stand-ins...

From page G1

Michael Jackson's "Thriller" was posted on YouTube and got more than a million hits in less than a month.

Thursday's performance came about after a representative of Bruno called up the governor's office on Monday to ask if the singer-songwriter could see the CPDRC inmates perform.

Choreographer Vince Bordes said they had to work overtime in choreography as dance number from Bruno's song but since they were informed earlier on the week they did Monday.

The session started at 8:30 Wednesday.

They started as early as 7 a.m. Thursday although the pop star was expected to arrive at 9 a.m.

But Bordes was told at noon that Bruno could not attend the show because he had a grueling practice on Wednesday and had to rest in his Cebu resort on Thursday.

Disappointed, the inmates returned to their cells to rest. They were asked to come out at 12:30 p.m. after Bruno's female entertained at 12:20 p.m.

The pop singer's Filipino mother, Bernadette Bayot Hernandez, was accompanied by her brothers Chris, Frank and John and Bruno's elder sister Jessie.

Councilor Jay Solon of San Pedro Bayot later joined the family. The program started at 12:40 p.m., with Bruno's uncle John performing "Just The Way You Are."

Bruno Mars was a no-show at the Cebu prison, where the inmates mounted a 40-minute production

"I was the one who taught him how to sing. I was the big Elvis (Presley); he was the small Elvis," John told the audience.

But before he sang "Gold or Fly" while Jessie sang "The Greatest Love of All."

Bruno, the fourth among six siblings, was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, to a Puerto Rican father and a Filipina mother, Hilot Bayot. Peter Hernandez, was brought up in Brooklyn. He was raised with siblings Jessie, Eric, Tiara, Tahli and Presley.

Bruno grew up with his sisters, aunts, cousins and proud he is obviously Sunday has prepared by their maternal grandmother Soledad, according to news items.

"We were also taught Filipino values like family first and respect for the elderly," Jessie told the business. "Of course, we grew up in a music-loving environment. My mother is a professional singer and dancer (he feels, and my father is a comedian)."

Growing up, she said, they performed for the family band (Love Notes) on nights a week in Honolulu.

Bruno's family was in Cebu to accompany him in his Philippine tour. He performed Thursday night inside the air-packed Waterfront Cebu City Hotel and Casino.

ENTERTAINMENT

FROM L-R (Bottom): Kirsten Haldin, Shane Bosse, Stella Crowe, Michael Cormick, Delia Hannah FROM L-R (Top): Blake Bowden, Alicia Gosling, Andrew Coughlan

The shows must go on

In a world of tragedies, the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber offers welcome respite

First of two parts

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

BRISBANE—It's hard to believe that this Australian city just suffered a major calamity; there are no signs whatsoever of the floods that crippled most of the region last January.

The city is in fine form, as most residents would say. On Thursday night, a good number of them packed the 2,000-seater Lyric Theater of the Queensland Performing Arts Center to watch "The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber," a touring production that will have a Manila run from June 24 to July 3.

ANDREW (r) Lloyd Webber's ...

Before London, the show's executive producer, told visiting Manila journalists that Brisbane "got back on its feet" rather quickly. "We saw good ge encouraging," she noted. "Australians are robust characters. When something goes wrong, we all pull together and work together."

It's a lot like the camaraderie fostered in theater, she said. "It took teamwork." A little night of music helped mend broken ... .

In this regard, the music of Webber, dubbed "the magicians of the musical" by Time magazine, can work wonders.

Pure escapism

"I have been Andrew's music can take you on a journey. It's pure escapism," Gosling told Inquirer Entertainment.

The show hasn't shown premieres to transport viewers to the famous locales of Webber's works: from Buenos Aires ("Evita") to Hollywood ("Sunset Boulevard"), then to and ("Jesus Christ Superstar") to France ("The Phantom of the Opera") and more.

The show features some of the most popular show-stoppers in Webber musicals.

"It's quite phenomenal," Gosling said of the Webber repertoire. "These are familiar songs my generation grew up with. But we believe even younger people would be drawn to the music as well. The show's a crowd pleaser for all ages."

(Conclusion tomorrow)

CHEER FACTOR

BERLIN—"Supernerds" star David Hasselhoff said Thursday he was to "deep like" with his new girlfriend, report bully a Welsh factory worker used just three model 27 years his junior. "I don't know that I'm in love yet but I'm to deep like," the 58-year old told the Bild daily in Germany, where he is currently promoting a new album. "It's a very kind of private time for us and we'll see what happens. But we're to close like ... I went into solid just to share my life with. That would be to dream." Reports said he has been dating Hayley Roberts, 31, for three months, and he has become a regular visitor at her mother's home near Swansea. AFP

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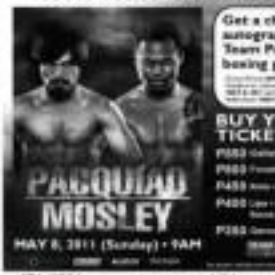

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Sexy starlet regrets what she did for love

By the Entertainment staff

SEXY starlet must be singing "What I Did for Love" now.

SS was romantically involved with Handsome Bembinero to whom she gave her full trust.

Alives till, HB did somethings to ad. ruins her career and even master-minded her winning an acting award over more deserving nominees.

SS, however, noticed that HB was a bit too clean for comfort with Gay Manager.

Turned out, HB and GM weren't only secret lovers; they were partners in crime as well.

HB kept SS in the dark about her savings. SS suspected that HB and GM took liberties with her hard-earned money.

After uncovering the truth, SS dumped HB and headed up with Gene Stark.

Banned at the beach

Although many links comes from a show biz clan, she failed to inherit her famous relatives' public-relations skills.

SS allegedly gave the organizers of a concert event untold headaches with her prima-donna ways.

PB was arrogant and treated the beaters like household help, according to a mole.

The stars, apparently PB's bad behavior firsthand, wanted no to be in something on PB's turns in future beach parties.

User-friendly

Last time he hogged the news, SS claim his trip was the boyfriend of Popular star.

In PB's latest scandal, SS distanced herself and soon the couple split.

But forward to the love and now, SS is very much entrenched in show biz and is back in circulation with a bevy of beauties in tow.

Veteran insider quips, "Perhaps PB' parents were right all along. SG was just using PK to make a name for himself in the business."

Mood swing

Colleagues noticed that Veteran actor was behaving rather strangely on the set of a high-profile project.

He was often distant, aloof and annoyingly no-present in his character. When long-time friend, Archaimbault Aston, visited the set, VS's mood changed suddenly. Could it be because AA handed over some mind-altering substances that VS illegally quickly dissolved?

Fishy

There's something fishy about the latest development surrounding controversial Personality.

Necessitating is a campaign against CF in a campaign that has clear ties with CP's allies.

Hmm, the company's much endeavor is under the wing of CP's allies, right? What gives?

It's CP's allies abandoning ship re-vamp?

Desperate MJ

LOS ANGELES—A defense lawyer for Michael Jackson's doctor says the singer was so anguished about his mounting finances in his final days that he took desperate actions that ultimately led to his own death.

The statements by attorney Edward Chernoff came during a pretrial hearing Wednesday in the case of Dr. Conrad Murray who has pleaded not guilty to involuntary manslaughter in Jackson's death. AP

Top of the talk shows

The top shots his views in the Inquirer talked Bandera (and why we are moved if we are moved):

• Patrick Garcia: Hindi na ba mi magkakabalikan si Jinri Ural at Ryan Agoncillo? (Ano ba ang nangyari sa inyo?)

• Kris: Ipo mailing mga drama mga bida (Mr. Bert.)

• Dr. Michelle Agoncillo-Lopez: Ang sipag ni Willie Ray Aga. (Ah, Jaypee ba...?)

• Empire Dominguez-Aong: pasay on awards night. (Wellup.)

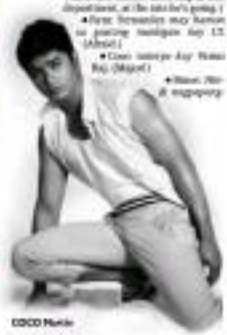
• Empire: na-cupid cel, nadisiplina at shooting [illegible] na mam dalid seating ... ?)

• Ay galing. Jaya

ALA Mallari's

RENZ Fernandez

EUGENE Domingo



COCO Martin

Iskalero ng mga siggurista. Ukay-ukayang entertainment si dagsa-Ben.)

• Wasak. Dito naman nanalagpol daw sa talents for sex. P800,000 a month. (Parang mahal ng banapa yun every month.)

• Aga nahihirapang magpasalita sa ABS-CBN interview ng ex-TV5 c.)

• Mhaydang: nanalabapak kay Willie. (Tsk-tsk-tsk!!! need help in their deepest need.. at the rate he's going.)

• Rene Fernandez may humor sa pagiging manlagare kay LT. (Ahhm!)

• Coco: nakiepot kay Nonie Boy. (Major!)

• Shiner: Hiri di engagement

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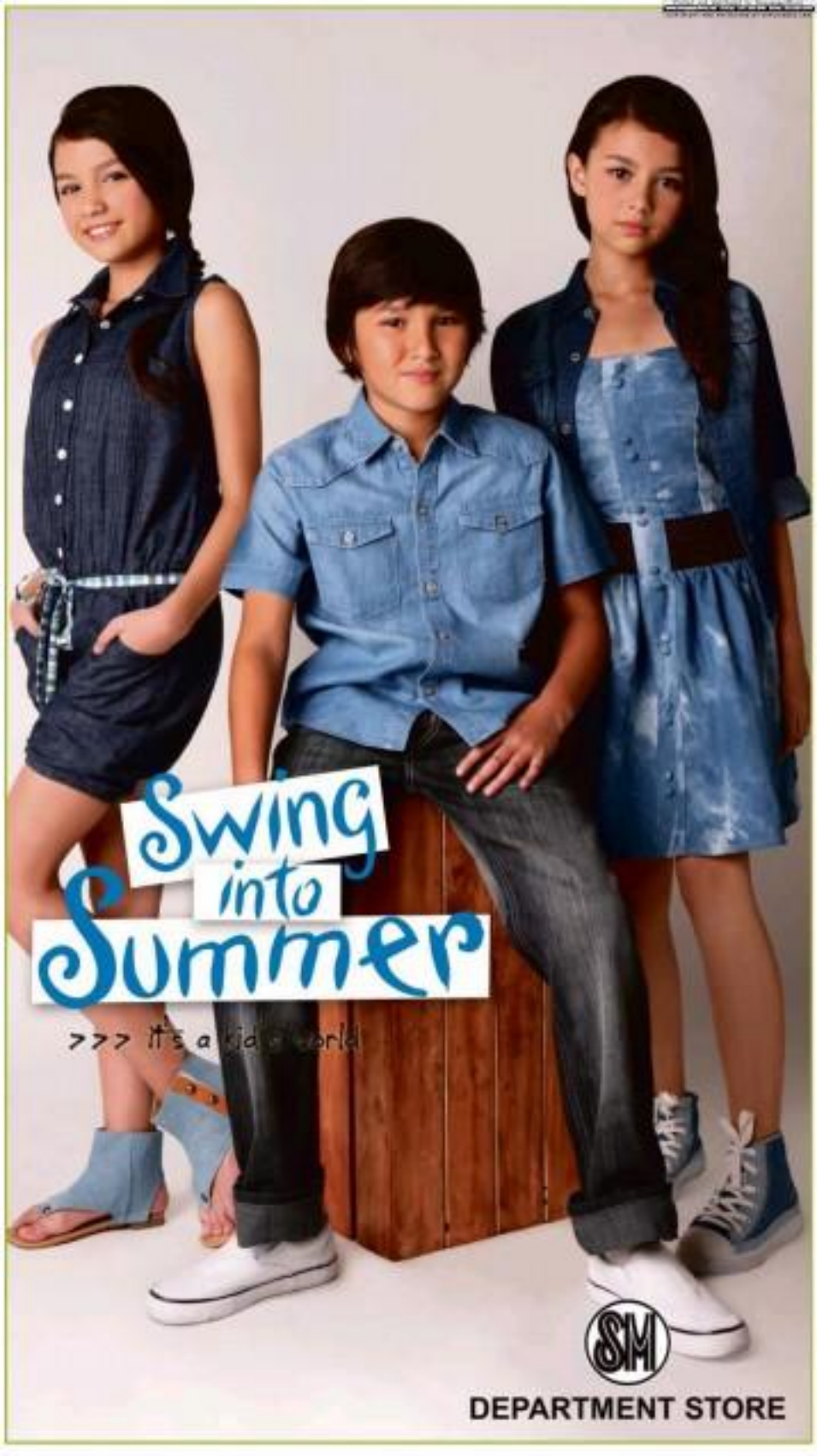
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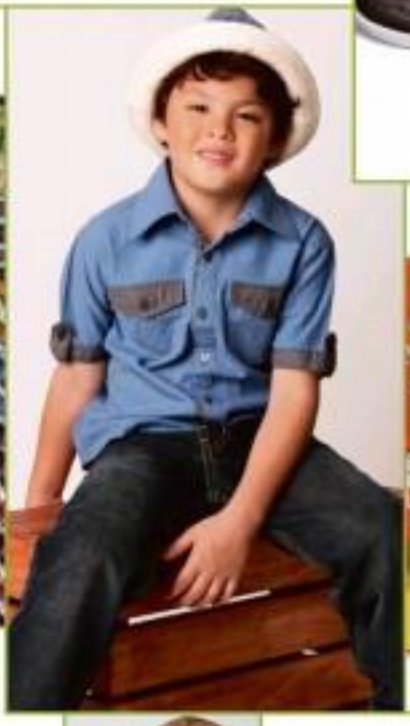

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This position requires relevant academic qualification, master or higher level in a development related field. Deep knowledge of the issues and challenges of Mindanao, particularly of conflict affected areas is essential.

Applications are limited from suitably qualified persons, with Philippine nationals encouraged to apply. Please note that this is a local consultant position, neither an Overseas Based nor Australian Public Service position. Further details on **Terms of Reference and selection criteria** for the position can be accessed under job vacancies of the website: http://www.ausaidmanagers.gov.au/employ/about.cfm

Conditions of Contract

The position is full-time for an initial period of eighteen (18) months, and is expected to spend significant amount of time in both Manila and in various parts of Mindanao. The successful candidate is expected to commence as soon as possible. Consultant fee is negotiable depending upon qualifications and experience.

Expressions of Interest

Interested applicants must address the selection criteria (maximum 5 pages), and detail suitability to perform the duties of the position including personal qualities, experiences, skills and knowledge. All applications should be forwarded to: **HR Manager, Development Cooperation Section, Australian Embassy, 23/F Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, 6819 Ayala Avenue, Makati City 1200** or Manila.HRRecruitment@ausaid.gov.au on or before **Monday, 2 May 2011**. Please include in your application a curriculum vitae of no more than 3 pages. Written interview reports are not required to be submitted at this time of application, although applicants should ensure that the names and contact details of ten (2) work-related referees are supplied. Do not send copies of academic transcripts, awards, degrees, or published papers. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Envelopes should be clearly marked **"MCAAS/HR/BMO"**. Due to the volume of applications, only shortlisted applicants for interview will have their applications acknowledged.

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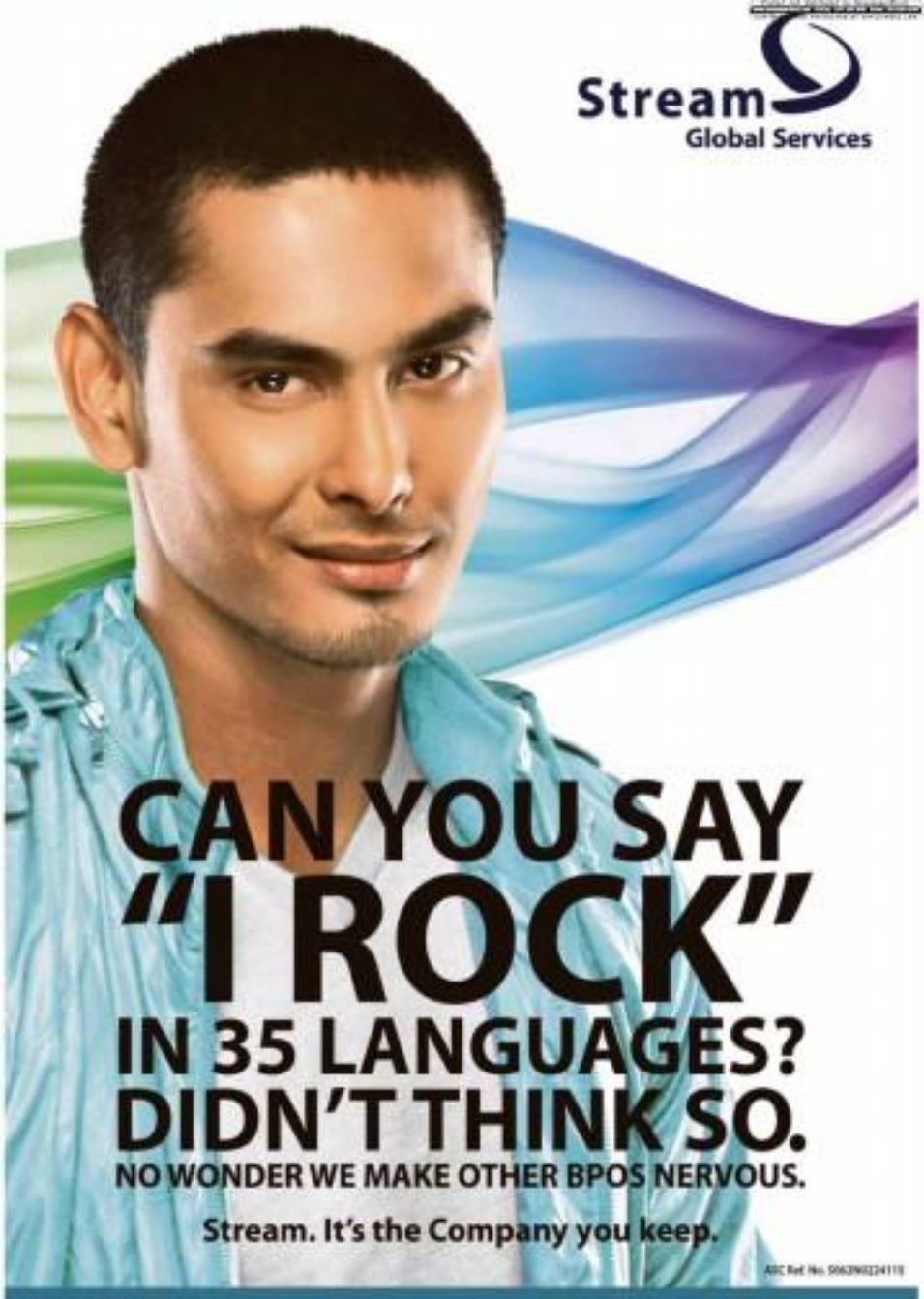

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- Economics
- Financial Management
- Human Kinetics
- Information Technology
- Languages and Literature (English, Filipino)
- Legal Management
- Science and Mathematics
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Theology
- Social Sciences and the Humanities

Holders of Ph.D. degrees in the appropriate fields from top-tier universities are ideal. Candidates are expected to have a distinguished record of scholarly and/or equivalent professional achievement.

Interested applicants are expected to submit an application letter, a statement of teaching philosophy and experience, curriculum vitae, and names and addresses of three character references to Chair, Search Committee, College of Arts and Sciences, San Beda College, Mendiola, Manila or at email address mariaaxel@gmail.com/axel@cas.sanbeda.edu.ph. For more information, call on 735-60-11 local 3129 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Review of applicants will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled.

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- Knowledge of advertising trends and can work on multiple platforms (print ads, billboards, website, press releases, etc.)
- Has creative, able to conceptualize ideas for the clients & meet their expectations

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- Female, 28-35 years old, a bachelor's degree in Communications, Advertising or Marketing
- With more than 4-5 years of solid experience as a Senior Account Executive
- Proven skills in interfacing with all levels of executives, client and media
- Must be able to multi-task and manage multiple projects at a time
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- Must be knowledgeable with systems development lifecycle concepts

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- Female, 24-28 years old. Graduate of Advertising, Communication or Marketing
- With at least 1 year related work experience in account management, marketing and project handling
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Sociable, able to interact with different types of people

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An International Foodservice Brand
is expanding in the Philippines and is searching for dynamic, responsible, and quality-oriented individuals to fill the following positions:

HR Supervisor
- College graduate (PSM or Business Management, would be an advantage); 25 to 35 years old; must have experience in at least 3 years
- Computer Literate and with pleasing personality
- Good planning and interpersonal skills

Store Managers / Asst. Store Managers (4)
- College graduate (Bachelor's Degree in Management, 3 to 5 Service Management, HRM from a reputable university); 25 to 35 years old; must have prior experience in a foodservice company of at least 2 years
- Able to supervise daily store operations; responsible for the management of operating expenses and food costs
- Capable of leading store to achieving performance targets
- Skilled in planning and development of programs to improve overall efficiency of store operations
- Guarantees the strict compliance of quality control standards, cash & inventory control mechanisms; knowledge of POS an advantage
- Strong organizational, leadership & interpersonal skills

Baristas (5)
- HS graduate; 20 to 25 years old; must have prior experience in coffee preparations
- Must be hardworking, honest and responsible
- Team player and is a fast learner
- Good interpersonal relationship and physically fit
- Must show enthusiasm and eagerness to work

Cooks/Bakers (10)
- College graduate or attended cooking/baking courses; 20 to 35 years old; must have prior experience in a foodservice company of at least 2 years
- Good leadership and interpersonal skills
- Can manage kitchen and staff well
- Knowledge of use of baking equipment
- Able to anticipate and produce orders and have minimal wastage

Business Devt. Asst.
- College graduate; 20 to 30 years old
- Keen in identifying possible store locations according to marketing objectives, maintain good relations with tenants
- Active, self-driven, good comm., negotiation and interpersonal skills
- Can work under minimal supervision
- Must show initiative, team player and goal oriented

Crew (6)
- HS graduate; 21 to 30 years old
- Knowledge of POS
- Good, appearance and pleasing personality
- Communicative and service oriented

Applicants must be willing to travel abroad for a period not to exceed 2 months to undergo proper training.

Please email you curriculum vitae to **foodconcept01@gmail.com** or you may send it to **Ms. Trina Lim c/o LMG 2229 Tolentino St., Pasay City, Metro Manila. Pls. indicate position applied for.**

JT International (Philippines) Inc. – a subsidiary of JT International S.A. – is looking for young, ambitious, and hardworking college graduates who want to move up quickly in the career ladder to join JUMP!, the company's Management Trainee Program. Graduates of the program will become members of the Sales & Marketing management team.

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WINROCK

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- Prepare presentations and briefing materials as may be required from time to time, and may carry accounting to audience during project briefing and consultations.
- Support the preparation of information dissemination campaign materials such as project CD, brochures and flyers
- Help prepare and for updates on the project website.

Qualifications:
- Bachelor's or higher degree in communication, public relations, management, planning and related field
- Good understanding of energy and environmental issues
- Active experience in working with governmental agencies and building potential support for related projects will be a plus
- Excellent interpersonal and teamwork skills
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.

The successful candidate will be based in Makati and report to the IEC Specialist.

Please email your CV, 3 writing samples, and a list of references with complete contact information to CENRISP_IEC@yahoo.com by April 13, 2011. Please indicate the name of the position (IEC Coordinator) in your email's subject line.

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- Experience using Apex, VisualForce, API and having other related CRM skills is an advantage
- Experience in database and data modelling, and designing workflows
- Knowledgeable in HTML, XHTML, CSS, PHP, ASP, Javascript, Java, AJAX, SQL
- Knowledgeable in CRM and other related customer support platforms
- Ability to translate business requirements into system/ functional requirements or solutions

mission alliance

HOPE/DEAN NEEDS ALLIANCE PHIL INC., is a Manila-based organization focused on children and youth, utilizing holistic development approach to assist 5,000 children in Metro Manila, Bicol, Laguna, Batangas and Mindanao. We are in need of qualified, experienced and committed professionals to be part of our team who will assist in building and coordinated systems and enabling policy environment as an community partners maximizing participation of their own development agenda. We are looking for people with expertise in the areas of Health, Education and Community Organization Building and Networking and Livelihood Development. Please refer requirements of Education. Here we are inviting you to join us and face the challenge of transforming peoples' lives to make a difference.

AREA MANAGER

Place of Work: Bulacan/Laguna
Position Qualification:
- Graduate of Social Work, Community Development, Healthcare Providers or any social sciences related course, with minimum 3 years background in child & youth focus programs and experience in project cycle management.
- At least 5 years experience in leading and managing NGO & youth programs utilizing holistic approach in community development.
- With persistent knowledge in project development cycle from planning, implementation to monitoring and evaluation.
- Experience in LGU, NGO and PO collaboration.
- With computer knowledge on Local Government Code, Revenue, and Project Cycle
- With knowledge on Gender Development and Environmental issues affecting children
- With good experience in managing and or supervising staff to empower community needs
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SBWDFI OFFICERS AND MEMBERS WITH SBMA LABOR DEPARTMENT
The Subic Bay Workforce Development Foundation Inc (SBWDFI) was brought into fruition by the ingenuity of the SBMA Labor Department Manager, lawyer Soreco C. Pastor Jr with the end view of providing assistance to the needs of the workforce of Subic Bay Freeport Zone. The Board of Trustees manages the SBWDFI where three (3) members nominated from the People Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP Subic Chapter) sit in the board. SBWDFI has been in operation for the last seven (7) years and has undertaken many projects that benefited the Subic Freeport workforce and community. Shown are the officers and some members of the Subic Bay Workforce Development Foundation Inc.

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NOTICE OF SEARCH AND CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Board of Regents of Maria Versara State University (MVSU) hereby and publicly announces that the Board for the Presidency of MVSU CLOSED (CBE) effective 15 April 2011.

Applicants MUST possess the following MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Not less than three (3) years old and must not be more than sixty-one (61) years old at the time of application for this position;
2. Holder of Doctoral Degree (PhD);
3. Holder of Bachelor's Degree (Outside degree from a reputable Nueva Versara University (NVU);
4. Must have served as administrator whether in public or private HEI, for at least three (3) years;
5. Must not have been convicted of any administrative offense or of any crime involving moral turpitude;
6. Must not have been removed from office for any offense and is not to be appointed to any position in the Civil Service, and is not under the sentence of any court at the time of the application;
7. Must not be related within the fourth degree of consanguinity or affinity to any member of the Board of Regents, to the President or to any Vice President of the University at the time of his appointment.

Interested applicants must submit the following DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Letter of Application addressed to the Chairman, Search Committee, MVSU, Bacolodmay;
2. Personal data sheet (CS Form 212), signed under oath;
3. Certified true copy of documents in support of the data stated in the PDS;
4. Original copy of Clearance from Government Agencies (for non-incumbents);
5. Certification/clearance (original copies) from the following government agencies, obtained not more than six (6) months from the date of filing of the application, that the applicant has no pending administrative and/or criminal case:
   a. Ombudsman (for government employees)
   b. Sandiganbayan
   c. Civil Service Commission (CSC)
   d. Regional Trial Court (RTC) jurisdiction - NBI
   e. Municipal/Metropolitan Trial Court where he/she is residing
   f. Institution/Company where the applicant is presently employed
6. Nonincumbent's Oath of Office;
7. Duly accomplished Personal History Statement (PHS) and Landbank account number;
8. Medical Certificate of Physical Fitness issued by an accredited government physician or any accredited public institution;
9. Result of Neuro-psychiatric examination conducted by an accredited government physician;
10. Duly accomplished CSC Form 212, Work Experience Sheet;
11. Certification that the applicant is no drug user/pusher by DDB/PDEA.

Government / accredited medical laboratories or duly notarized (not to be all of original and duly-CS oath of authentication/clearance in a before May 15, 2011 in addition of the following:

to: **Dr. Sabrina M. Guerrero, Jr.**
Chair, Search Committee - MVSU Presidency
Nueva Versara State University
Bacolodmay, Nueva Versara

Attention: **Ms. Nena Esperanza G. Ramirez**
Vice Chairman 1, Bacolodmay Campus
Ms. Susan Grace C. Domingo
Vice Chairman 2, Northern Campus

GREENPEACE

Greenpeace, one of the world's leading environmental campaigning organizations, is looking for a

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The successful candidate will work closely with and report to the Fundraising Manager. They will also be responsible for community fundraising and face to face fundraising, including the management responsibility for the coordinators of these programmes.

Desirable Qualifications/Experience:

- A successful track record in using a wide range of fundraising or high volume customer generating marketing methods
- A good knowledge of media channels such as direct mail, press advertising and face to face processes
- Bachelor's Degree in Marketing / Communications or other related field and/or equivalent work experience
- Excellent communication skills (written and oral) in English
- Computer literate (MS Word, Excel)
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- A creative and innovative approach
- Able to manage multiple tasks and priorities effectively with minimal supervision
- Ability to successfully develop and implement plans
- Management experience an advantage
- Passion & Commitment to the mission, vision, values and methods of Greenpeace

Interested candidates are invited to write Letter of Introduction explaining why you are qualified for the position, and our Recruitment Pack with detailed job description

(http://www.greenpeace.org/philippines/AcquisitionCoordinator)

Filled Application Form which you can download from (http://www.greenpeace.org/philippines/AcquisitionCoordinator) and email by the closing date to: **jobs.ph@greenpeace.org**

Please fill up all items in the application form as this will be our basis for shortlisting candidates.
Curriculum Vitae (CVs) will not be accepted.

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Deadline of applications: April 22, 2011

A multinational mining company is urgently looking for the following:

Project Geologist – will perform management, supervision and monitoring and control of geological exploration projects and services. He will likewise undertake reconnaissance to detailed geological evaluation of projects and prospects as required by management and prepare and submit reports relative to the work undertaken complete with maps, photos and sketches.

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Legal Counsel – will be responsible for providing legal advice on application of mining tenements, leases, employment contracts, purchase agreements, insurance, partnerships, joint ventures and others legal documents. This person will also prepare legal documents such as contracts, agreements and pleadings as well as coordinate legal work and documents with other legal advisers of the company.

Qualification: Any combination of experience and training that would provide the required knowledge and abilities; a functional degree from an accredited law school, with preferred experience in mining, tenement administration, industrial relations, and corporate legal documentation.

Safety Officer – will be responsible for maintaining safe and hazard-free working conditions by monitoring company's safety and health programs to ensure compliance. Assist in maintaining environment standard of plant and facilities. Leads safety-training programs to promote proficiency in safe practices and promote safety awareness. Conducts accident and safety inspections and advises management of safety audit findings and recommends specific corrective or prevention measures to improve safety.

Qualification: Licensed engineer preferred with background in safety, with strong mentoring and communication skills, with drive, initiative and teamwork skills, and with demonstrated commitment to safety continual improvement. With 5-6 years related experience.

Procurement Officer – The ideal candidate will be responsible for purchasing including technical and specialized procurement of supplies, equipment and services. Manage large-scale contributed purchasing and contract functions for a multi-unit organization that requires items with unique requirements as to construction, testing, durability, or quality characteristics. Requires extensive knowledge of policies, procedures and practices.

Qualification: Tertiary education in Business Administration, business management or a closely related field is strongly preferred. Five to seven years experience in the procurement/contract field is preferred. However, any equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to perform job duties may be considered.

Administrative Assistant – The ideal candidate will possess outstanding communication skills and is impeccably groomed. As the first point of contact for the company, she will be customer driven and enjoy exceeding customers' expectations. This person will also provide secretarial assistance to management.

Qualification: Tertiary education in business administration or related degree, with Excellent computer skills, superior verbal and written communication skills, able to work with minimum supervision, and have a strong initiative and ability to think outside the box. At least 2-3 years related experience.

Please send resume to: Fax: **8151655**
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- Effective communication skills (Excellent interpersonal skills)

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APRIL 10-16, 2011

WORKING PEOPLE

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Editor Jean Francis N. Bolasco

The real job security

Ernie O. Cecilio

IN AN INFORMAL SURVEY I made, some 75% to 80% of Filipinos in the workplace are happy with their work, their company, and their boss. However, roughly 50% fear the possibility of job loss. This includes employees in large multinationals. Of course, it is common knowledge that such big companies like Intel, Nokia, and Kimberly Clark have moved to other more inexpensive countries, downsized and left several thousands of world-class Filipino workers jobless.

In this column, I often get inquiries from young readers on how to avoid losing one's job, while that is a "defensive" posture, as opposed to keeping one's job, the concern is easy to avoid whenever today.

The nature of jobs

When I was young and silly I heard stories of youngsters who just happened to work by a fortune and were offered a job they held for 10 years until they retired. Today, while jobs abound, you have to look hard, be and wide to get your dream job. Where are they? Sadly, get a job today, the perils of keeping it have increased tremendously than before.

Last week, I gave an inspirational talk to a company that experienced massive retrenchment. When I asked the audience what their real reason for being a company meant, somebody at the back shouted, "To provide jobs for Filipinos." Recently I talked at the BPM/ICON Protocol Convention at the Manila Hotel where hundreds of service contractors converged. I reminded that many of their thoughts that their company's reason for existence is to provide jobs for Filipinos.

Of course, it sounds noble, but that is not true. A better answer would be to "satisfy the customer." So the person thinking the customers you will need employees to do that. Let's just be clear which comes first. Human resources practitioners should learn to change their mindset. Their job is not to provide jobs for people looking for jobs — it is to look for people with the skills and attitudes required by the customers.

The market dictates

Today's customers have become more demanding. They complain when we call the number. The market today is merciless and unforgiving, it is the market that dictates whether the businessman will have a business, and whether the employee will have a job. The market dictates how businessmen invest (e) business with consumers who no longer simply accept products and services crammed down their throats. Customers today decide jointly with the businessman what products and services they are willing to pay for, and in what price, timing, delivery mode these should come to them. Believe me, it's not that easy to do business with a market like that.

Customers, also dictate to the businessman what kind of employees he should have. The skills required to move and satisfy yesterday's customers may no longer be relevant today. So, Virginia, there's such a thing as skills obsolescence, and that's a real danger in careers today. The market dictates what skills are needed at any given time. Businesses, those are not the same skills those businesses learn in school, or are forced to learn. The academe does not move to, much less anticipate, market changes that can make the graduates' knowledge or skills irrelevant. When you take a five-year course, what you learned in the first year is often rendered irrelevant and obsolete by the customer, culture and technology shifts of number. I am a firm believer in education, as long as schooling does not interfere with education!

Old and new notions

It is interesting to note that as we write today, there are still old notions about job security. In the past, you'd have a great career so long as you don't do anything silly. Today the necessary ability to adapt and not doing anything silly is no longer enough. Security is no longer guaranteed. In the past, people got paid for the time they put in — that's why the clock cards were a must and many document, and the timekeepers and supervisors loved to snoop on us in the workplace. Today people can earn without ever reporting to work, as long as they create value that the customers are willing to pay for.

In the past, security of one's tenure is enhanced when no-observe seven rules. Rule No. 1 is "the boss is always right." Rule No. 2 says, "When in doubt, refer to Rule No. 1." Today, decisions can no longer made by people with the highest ranks, but by those who know best. A company's main power is getting to be its most important resource — not just "people power" but people with the best brain power that is appropriate for the business, as dictated and determined by the market.

An old notion that sadly lingers on in today's modern workplace is true of entitlements. An employee must of entitlements dictates that what you give is Pesos, you must also give to Joan. Under an emerging scheme of things, with the concepts of unbridled equality, seniority, longevity and tenure, loyalty will be irrelevant. The new mantra is "deliverance, deliverance!" when comparing people today. Today, companies can no longer get the business simply because they were in that business first. Customers will not choose to do business with a company simply because it is 100 years old. Its longevity or tenure in the marketplace does not matter to customers. Therefore, companies must start to rethink why they are in business, and reinvent, much less anticipate, market changes that can make the graduates' knowledge or skills irrelevant. When you take a five-year course, what you learned in the first year is often rendered irrelevant and obsolete by the customer, culture and technology shifts of number. I am a firm believer in education, as long as schooling does not interfere with education!

Old and new notions

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Security as an issue

In a time changing market environment, businessmen are forced to adapt to the changing rules of doing business. The market allows no safety net as old-style businessmen, however, a private government provides. Businessmen have no safety nets for workers. The safety nets for workers function is a system that cushions the impact of their fall — it does not prevent the fall — it guarantees that they will not fall.

When the market dictates that the businessman will lose his business, his workers will also lose their jobs. To cushion the impact of job loss, workers are assisted of separation pay if the job loss is not due to their fault, or if the business did not close because of financial difficulties. The mandated severance pay is of course does not guarantee against job loss. In fact, no government in the world can give that guarantee. What are a division of the market forces, and governments can only influence the market but not dictate to the market how to behave. When governments feel euphoric over the market forces, often the market simply moves away to more favorable destinations.

In reality, the businessman's right to hire and fire is not absolute. The workers' right to security of tenure is also not absolute. So matters have you refurbish the Labor Code, and the Supreme Court of version, the reality of job loss will still be there when the market so dictates.

Whose things can happen if mankind security of tenure becomes more and more absolute. It will deprive the businessman of the flexibility already guaranteed by the Constitution. Businessmen will choose to do business in countries with more flexible labor laws. Businessmen, there will be no jobs. No government can change that equation. It's like holding a rare soup more tightly so that you don't lose your grip. Often, the soup slips.

As we write today, there are pending bills in both houses of Congress that address the supposed issue of job security. They have several features, but they have in common the ability to affect the security of employment negatively. This concept is dangerous and not viable in a fast-changing market.

If there are emergent forms of temporary employment dictated by the market, making employers more easily regular to the Philippines it is bad idea. Elsewhere, more temporary employees have demanded financial benefits, both Filipinos and foreigners, will seek more lucrative environments where their investments will have a better chance of growing. It is said strongly that the minimum wage are almost five times that of Vietnam, and paid holidays here are three times that of Singapore or Indonesia. The minimum wage in Thailand is almost 22 times here than in Vietnam. Let us not give more reasons for foreign investors and Filipino entrepreneurs to look elsewhere for more favorable destinations.

If government sees that there are unscrupulous businessmen circumventing the present laws that are already highly protective of labor, don't make more laws. Laws alone will not deter. Laws deter the time I believe that in the matter, better enforcement will not more legislation is the answer to some unresolved incidents. What labor leaders are fed by some shop workers.

In the end, the real security for businessmen and workers is not in the books of the laws. It is in the hand of both the businessman and the worker. Laws are made to help some to their way to differentiate until in the market in that it can capture the elusive market share. Employers must have the skills to perform a variety of functions even as they move from one job, department, company, career or country to another. For businessmen and employees, there are the real security in today's changing environment.

Ernie is current Chair of the Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM). He also chaired ECOP's Long Range Policy Planning Committee. He is also President of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines. Send (Ernie's Email) (2011) to Ernie. Send your feedback, "Life's Big Lessons" and "Life's Big Lies" are now available as book series. Access (e-mail) (e-mail, cecilio@yahoo.com)

The HR Mandate in the New World

OUR WORLD HAS RADICALLY changed.

In our environment irrationally and dynamically evolved, no real-ity makes that we are operating in a completely different business landscape, now characterized by:

+ Emerging Asian Markets stretching multinationals to flock into the region and forcing global competitiveness at the local level.
+ High Speed Technological Developments creating borderless communities through open communications and networking.
+ Shifting Societal Values embracing social responsibility, greater and diversity, and safety, health and wellness, and
+ Nonprofit Natural Environment fighting back with its destructive and disruptive climate changes and unprecedented natural disasters.

So, how many institutions and practitioners continue to service customers and people the same way they did twenty or even thirty years ago? What possible consequences are looming on us by failing to respond appropriately and positively to all these challenges? How should we respond to these shifts in our working environment with the way we manage people?

This year, the People Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) will hold its 46th Annual Conference with the theme "Ten Mores, Ten Musts: The HR Mandate in the New World" that will explore the new realities and challenges in human resources or people, and the way we manage people. Specifically, by the end of the conference the delegates shall be able to: (1) Describe trends in the current business landscape as influenced by emerging numbers in Asia, rapid technological developments, shifts in societal values, and economic changes in natural environments; (2) Discuss and relate the implications of these changes on managing human people and their behavior; and (3) Acquire and apply tools and effective practices in people management and development areas.

The program features Plenary Sessions focusing on the four forces of changes that will provide the global context that makes Operation Human Resources particularly in light of the changing business and societal environment:

+ Emerging Issues Markets
+ Developments in Technology
+ Societal Values in Business Mindsets
+ Environment, Climate Change and Business Recovery.

The concurrent sessions will explore the implications of the new world on business and HR, emphasizing the importance for HR to take the initiative and drive the requisite change in organizations. The two tracks will evolve on the implications on business and HR and HR's role in the new world.

Participants in this session will be able to: actively participate in creating and managing their own agenda around the general theme of the conference; learn to use the Open Space Technology as a powerful tool in running productive meetings with 5 to more than 1,000 participants; and apply new organization models in everyday practice and dynamic change. HR Practitioners will continue to take action tools to facilitate change management. PMAP will infuse the following conference method-ologies:

+ In-depth and Interactive discussions of key issues through facilitated workshops, round table and plenary discussions.
+ Open Space Technology will allow delegates to create and file their own agenda.
+ Audiovisual presentations, and
+ Learning Journals.

Other highlights of the PMAP conference include the PMAP Awards Night, Fellowship Night and Expo where delegates will have the chance to meet new friends and renewed HR practitioners and suppliers.

For more inquiries, please contact the PMAP Secretariat at tel. no. 730-1332 or email pmap@pmap.org.ph.

Gospel: John 11: 1-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Rising to new life

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

WHEN JESUS RAISED HIS DEAD FRIEND LAZARUS, HE wanted to prove that He is indeed the "resurrection and the life" for anyone who believes in Him. In the Homily, He inspires those who would ask forgiveness of their sins, and for sins past every debt which every sinner incurs by his sinful acts on the cross. But, our Master believes in Jesus and he united with Him (for sinners to receive and enjoy forgiveness of his sins and all the graces of salvation, thus then can one receive forgiveness of his sins?

First of all, one needs to accept the reality that he is sinful. But the Book of Genesis tells us that God made us in His own likeness and image (in the will and laws of God, of nature and even those against evil have used God's forgiveness), he should feel the need that even his actions which are selfish and/or reflective of the absence of God, need to be redirected towards the Saving God. This, in turn, is defined by Christ Himself as the beginning of the new life of the sinner — to turn away from sin and believe in the Gospel. When one realizes his unfaithfulness and his deep need of God, then his being is ready disposed to enter in faith with the Savior.

Christ's words should not be a stumbling to the journey of one's soul to its Redeemer. Say, it should be a valuable means to bring it close to Him. The strength and energy demanded by work should remind the worker to give and spend his whole being for the Creator and Savior of life. Whatever finds no zeal and commitment in the weight of his job, he should remember that he has to confess to a death, a death to sin and disobedience so that he can rise to a new life with the Risen Lord. Those spiritual experiences the worker tries to go through while at work, and aided by the Sacraments of the Church, like that of Reconciliation, could help the worker regain his once his resurrection — a life totally directed to the End of life and salvation.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Accomplishments

By Teresa R. Tuvay, DCDS

AT TIMES, BEFORE THE GOSPEL, I MAKE MY SILENT EXERCISE OF EXAMINATION. I imagine how somebody might say about his sinful actions thinking "He read it later." I understand there are: if they were get back to it. They're steeped in work and anxiety even on non-days. No one can blame them for thinking "Don't talk to me about eternal life. I can hardly cope with life here. Besides discussions of me. Involved then in here again. Yesterday I had my cell phone on the bus so I used a sidebar to explain it. That morning my wife complained that the pan de sal had thrush for the 9th time. A mercado ago my boss teased, making this report or that..."

It is true that we have many accidental concerns that can mismanage them day-to-day. Whether we're rich or poor, whether our problem is how to earn more money or how to spend our spare cash, our minds never seem to find freedom from so many activities about making jobs. Be our drive is energized from that... even those who can be considered rich about eternal life. I myself am swamped with work, deadlines — and whether I work "for love" (non-remuneration) or to pay the bills, I can't deny that there is another life because I believe that's what we're here for.

If I believed that my life began when I was born and is ending when I die, then, yes, I should worry if I didn't accomplish anything worthwhile. But I happen to believe that I was created by God and for God, therefore eternal life is "programmed" in my consciousness. And that frees me from anxiety. And so, whether I'm scribbling the notes, preparing bills or writing this column, I trust that what matters most is not what I can accomplish, but what God is accomplishing in and through me.

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- Pumpmen, same as above
- Bosuns, same as above
- Fitters, preferably/ENG License or Welder/welding Certificate. If none we will send them for trainings

PLEASE VISIT OR SEND CV TO:
Ms. Dante Ildig, 4/F Corinthian Star Homes, 844 Del Pilar Sts. Brgy. Wawa, Manila (Across Immanuel Baptist Mabini Church)
PER N. MORCH - Owner's Rep.
Email: [redacted]

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(an Agent for)

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(A NORWEGIAN COMPANY)

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Ms. Dante Ildig, 4/F Corinthian Star Homes, 844 Del Pilar Sts. Brgy. Wawa, Manila (Across Immanuel Baptist Mabini Church)
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ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE: Market research, competitor and marketing monitoring, planning for the EMEDIA Report

IRRIGATION SUPERVISOR: Interviewing employee applicants, recruiting staff, promoting equality of organization

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR: Implements programs and procedures. Monitors operations of plant equipment

QUALITY ASSURANCE ENGINEER: Organize development unit. Maintain quality assurance system of the company

COMMUNICATIONS ASST: Writing articles, write ups, and press releases. Assisting during media interviews

INFORMATION SECURITY SPECIALIST: In-charge of the information security of Telecoms Management Corporation

PRESS HELPER: Operating skills of simple pneumatic equipment. Good motor coordination skills

AUTO LOAN OFFICER: Knowledgeable in auto loan process. Marketing and sales forecasting

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is building its pool of qualified applicants for possible employment in the Supervision and Examination Sector and seeks applicants with the following qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Statistics, Finance, Economics, Law, Banking or allied related courses
- No experience required, however, those with at least 1 year relevant experience in any of the 5: bank/non-bank supervision and examination, internal or external audit, financial/economic analysis, quantitative research in finance or statistics or related area, shall be given preference; **pls. elaborate in your resume the specific duties/tasks handled**
- No training required, however, those with at least four (4) hours of relevant training, shall be given preference
- RA 1080-CPA or non-CPAs with CSP or any 2nd Level eligibility granted non-CPAs show proof of recognition for outstanding relevant achievement such as academic honor and outstanding leadership awards and outstanding research; **pls. indicate in your resume & application form specific eligibility acquired**
- Excellent analytical skills
- Proficient level of computer literacy
- Demonstrated leadership and good interpersonal skills

Interested applicants may send to **hrmd@bsp.gov.ph** their resume and accomplished application form downloadable from **http://www.bsp.gov.ph/about/recruitment.asp** quoting code PDI-SED-2011104-0301. Due to potential large volume of applications received, screening has to be made on a highly competitive basis. Only those who are shortlisted will be contacted for further processing.

PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT RE-APPLY

Employers' confab deals with tripartism and employment

YEAR 2011 - A PIVOTAL YEAR IN GMA'S NOY ONE, hoped to the Aquino administration amid a decade economic solidifying & the global landscape and the industrial relations arena. Employers, no more part, are heavily affected by various issues that pose challenges to Philippine businesses. Some of the major concerns of employers include creation, labor contractualization, and promoting business ease.

The Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP) supports the government and its thrust of promoting public-private partnership. ECOP believes that continued partnership among various stakeholders shall translate into economic growth that will have a ripple effect on the common people.

These issues and challenges shall be discussed during the 22nd National Conference of Employers (NCE 22), an annual undertaking by ECOP to be held on May 4-5, 2011 at the Manhott Hotel at Baesport, Pasay City. The Conference theme is "Tripartism and Employment: The Only Way." NCE 22 is chaired by Jesus B. Garcia.

Among the topics of the Conference plenary sessions are "Combating Unfair Trade Practices", "Growth Through Labor Market Reforms", "Emerging Global Best Practices," and "Business Development and Bureaucracy."

Even now, ECOP convenes its constituency through the National Conference of Employers to come up with concrete and comprehensive position on matters affecting employer-employee relations and to lead in consultation with social partners and the business environment in general.

For more information about NCE 22, please call telefax 306-4442, 306-0300 or 567-5295. For inquiries on sponsorships, please feel free to get in touch with Ms. Jesa Jim, VBD. For inquiries on participation, contact Jeff Ms. Lani Ibo, TCD.

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- Online resume registration
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ACS Customer Services, Inc.

ACSI is a multinational leader in outsourced customer care solutions. With more than 17,000 professionals in 7 countries, ACSI manages customer relationships for 11 Fortune 500 companies in the Philippines and 4 in India. Our clients are in the telecommunications, financial services, technology, retail, and healthcare industries. We support leading brands like Sprint, Dell, Hewlett-Packard, Intuit, Verizon, Bell Canada, and Vodafone. Headquartered in Manila, ACSI has been consistently profitable since its founding in 1997. Our growth has been fueled by our commitment to delivering superior customer experiences for our clients' customers. ACSI is the only Philippine company to be named to the Deloitte Technology Fast 500 Asia Pacific list of fastest growing companies in 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. ACSI was also named to the Deloitte Technology Fast 50 Philippines list in 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010. ACSI is the only Philippine company to be named to the Inc. 5000 list of fastest growing companies in 2008, 2009 and 2010. ACSI was also named to the Inc. 500 | 5000 list of fastest growing companies in 2009 and 2010. ACSI is a proud member of the Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) and the Philippine Business for Education (PBEd). ACSI is also a member of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), the Management Association of the Philippines (MAP), the Contact Center Association of the Philippines (CCAP), and the Outsourcing Institute (OI). ACSI is a Platinum Partner of the Contact Center Association of the Philippines (CCAP). ACSI is a Platinum Partner of the Outsourcing Institute (OI). ACSI is a Platinum Partner of the Outsourcing Institute (OI). ACSI is a Platinum Partner of the Outsourcing Institute (OI

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SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2011

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
Regional Field Unit No. VIII
DR Building, Candahug, Palo, Leyte
E-mail: dar8@dar.gov.ph
Website: http://www.dar.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Department of Agriculture – Regional Field Unit VIII (DAR RFU 8) through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) will use official funds of the Agrarian Reform Infrastructure Support Project (ARISP) for the following projects. Interested contractors with the appropriate eligibility and registration requirements may apply for eligibility and submit their bids for the following projects:

No.	Item Description	Quantity	Approved Budget for the Contract
01	Construction of Farm to Market Road Location: Brgy. Cabay, Palo, Leyte Length: 1,000 meters Width: 3.00 meters Thickness: 0.15 meter Type of Pavement: Portland Cement Concrete Pavement Class of Concrete: Class "A" Reinforcement: 12mm dia. Deformed Bars Type of Shoulder: Gravel Shoulder Width of Shoulder: 0.50 meter Thickness of Shoulder: 0.15 meter Type of Slope Protection: Stone Masonry Type of Drainage: Concrete Lined Canal Width of Canal: 0.60 meter Depth of Canal: 0.60 meter Length of Canal: 1,000 meters Type of Culvert: Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert Diameter of Culvert: 0.60 meter Length of Culvert: 6.00 meters Number of Culvert: 1 unit	1 lot	₱1,000,000.00
02	Construction of Farm to Market Road Location: Brgy. Cabay, Palo, Leyte Length: 1,000 meters Width: 3.00 meters Thickness: 0.15 meter Type of Pavement: Portland Cement Concrete Pavement Class of Concrete: Class "A" Reinforcement: 12mm dia. Deformed Bars Type of Shoulder: Gravel Shoulder Width of Shoulder: 0.50 meter Thickness of Shoulder: 0.15 meter Type of Slope Protection: Stone Masonry Type of Drainage: Concrete Lined Canal Width of Canal: 0.60 meter Depth of Canal: 0.60 meter Length of Canal: 1,000 meters Type of Culvert: Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert Diameter of Culvert: 0.60 meter Length of Culvert: 6.00 meters Number of Culvert: 1 unit	1 lot	₱1,000,000.00

Other Requirements and payment of the above is published on the bulletin board of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Secretariat, Department of Agriculture Regional Field Unit No. VIII, DR Building, Candahug, Palo, Leyte. Interested contractors may obtain further information from the BAC Secretariat and may purchase the Bidding Documents from the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of ₱1,000.00 for each project. The Department of Agriculture reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality therein, or to accept such bid as may be considered most advantageous to the government. Bids may be submitted on or before 2:00 p.m. of April 25, 2011. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address above. Late bids shall not be accepted.

Activity	Schedule
1. Issuance of Bidding Documents	Start Date: April 11, 2011 End Date: April 25, 2011
2. Pre-bid Conference	April 18, 2011, 10:00 a.m.
3. Deadline of Submission of Bids	April 25, 2011, 2:00 p.m.
4. Opening of Bids	April 25, 2011, 2:00 p.m.

Bidders should have completed, within two (2) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents, particularly, in Section II. Instruction to Bidders.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184 (RA 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least seventy-five percent (75%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines and registered with the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) with an issued "Small B".

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Agusan Del Norte Provincial Engineering Office and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. during working days.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders from the address given below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of Five Thousand Pesos (₱5,000.00).

The Agusan Del Norte Provincial Engineering Office reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any formality therein, or to accept such bid as may be considered most advantageous to the government. Bids may be submitted on or before 2:00 p.m. of April 25, 2011. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.

For more information, please refer to:

Provincial Engineering Office
Provincial Capitol Building
Butuan City, Agusan Del Norte
Tel. No. (085) 342-8228

(signed)
ENGR. ROMEO A. ARANGUEZ
Provincial Engineer

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD
5027-5030 ROXAS, PASAY CITY

NOTICE OF HEARING

In order to comply with the requirements of R.A. 9497 and pursuant to the provisions of Section 21 of the Rules and Regulations governing Economic Regulation, Board Resolution No. 07-1-1 dated January 10, 2007, as amended by Board Resolution No. 07-1-2 dated January 10, 2007, the following applications are hereby set for hearing on May 4, 2011 at 10:00 A.M. at the CAB Conference Room, 5th Floor, CAB-DOTC Bldg., Roxas Blvd. cor. Arquiza St., Pasay City, to wit:

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Cebu – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Davao – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Cagayan de Oro – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Iloilo – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Zamboanga – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Bacolod – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Tacloban – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Kalibo – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Puerto Princesa – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Legaspi – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Laoag – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Tuguegarao – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Naga – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Busuanga – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Catarman – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Virac – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Masbate – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Roxas – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Dumaguete – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Tagbilaran – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Ozamiz – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Surigao – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Butuan – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Cotabato – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – General Santos – Manila

Applicant's name as per AOC: PAL Express (formerly Philippine Airlines, Inc.)
Type of Operation Applied for: Domestic Air Transportation
Aircraft Type(s) to be Used: Airbus A320-200
Number of Aircraft: 2
Seating Capacity: 180
Frequency: 2 daily
Routes: Manila – Zamboanga

PROPERTIES FOR FORECLOSURE AUCTION

Our Group of Companies invites everyone to bid at the public auctions for the foreclosure sale of the following properties:

ICT No.	Location	Type	Land Area (sq.m. / more or less)	Estimated Mortgagee's Bid (Php)	Date and Time of Auction	Place of Auction
T-17556	Located within Brgy. Tandem, Sen. Santos City, Province of South Cotabato. Northeast corner of National Highway and Compound Road, approximately 30 meters northeast from Tandem Brgy. Hall and about 11 km. from the City proper.	Industrial Land	10,000	1,500,000	Apr. 15, 2011 10:00 a.m.	At the lobby/premises of the Office of the Hall of Justice, Legaspi, General Santos City
T-25011 T-35009	Located within Brgy. Tandem, Sen. Santos City, Province of South Cotabato. Consists of two (2) adjoining parcels of land located on the south side of Compound Road, extending southeastward to Serongbel Brgy. adjacent to DPC Hollow's Compound.	Industrial Land	17,430 11,430	3,700,000		
T-4275-B	Lot of Double (2) Unit, Mini-Dormitory, located on the east side of Pres. E. Quirino Avenue, within Barangay Dadi, Gen. Santos City, Province of South Cotabato.	Commercial Land	552	1,800,000		
T-48599	Located on the south side of the National Highway, in the vicinity of Sta. Ford 1852, within Brgy. Olympia, Gen. Santos City, Province of South Cotabato. About 70 meters east from Manila Street, some 500 meters east from Bulaong Avenue and approximately 800 meters from the City proper.	Commercial Land	851	3,000,000		
T-49022	Located on the south side of Brgy. Road, within Brgy. Tambler, Gen. Santos City, Province of South Cotabato. Besides Globe Cell Site Tower, approximately 400 meters northeast from National Highway, some 800 meters from Sta. Ford 1852, and about 12 km. from the City proper.	Industrial Land	10,000	2,000,000		

All properties are to be sold on "AS-IS, WHERE-IS" basis. Interested bidders are advised to conduct an independent evaluation of the property through title verification and investigation at the premises and legal condition of the property and terms auction status.

For further information, please contact us at (02) 811-1525 or send us an email to foreclosure.sorfinas@rcbcsavers.com

(PN-April 10, 2011)

FOR LEASE

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   - Ayala Ave. cor. Makati Ave., Makati
   - Ayala Ave., Greenhills, San Juan
3. **COMMERCIAL BLDG.**
   - 70 Rizal Boulevard, Pasig City
4. **CHURCH / DOJO**
   - Bacoor, Cavite

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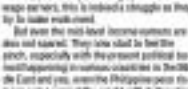
Perfect price points for Pinoys

YOU ENTER THE SUPERMARKET TO BUY basic daily necessities for the home just to replenish the supply. But as you line up at the shelves, you notice new retail products' prices have gone up considerably, thus making you wonder, "when is this going to stop?"

This is a common scene in today's groceries and supermarkets that is reflective of the country's precarious economic situation, leaving price consumers scrutinizing their heads and wondering how they can afford the bulging needs. It prices keep shooting up. For low-level wage earners, this is indeed a struggle as they try to make ends meet.

But even the mid-level income earners are also not spared. They now start to feel the pinch, especially with the present political turmoil threatening investors' confidence in the Philippine Esot and yes, even the Philippine peso recently rose against the weighty US dollar which has an equally detrimental effect.



Wapos products...

So what should manufacturing companies do when selling their products to the hapless and economically-battered consumer? Think of a perfect price point that's a win-win situation for both and that's what actually Filipino-owned company Lamoiyan Corporation is doing.

Over the years, Lamoiyan's products have become a staple staples in any Pinoy household, primarily because their products are within reach, price-wise. But price points aside, consumers know that the Lamoiyan products they buy off the shelves are also of world-class quality, a trademark that the company has boasted as far back as its inception.

Considering today's situation, consumers applaud Lamoiyan Corporation's decision is a welcome relief for their battered wallets in these hard economic times. The fact that they can afford Lamoiyan's products over those made by multinational companies and with similar use, if not the same, quality of foreign brands, is truly good news indeed.

"It was really a conscious effort on our part to keep our prices low enough for the ordinary 'Juan' to afford them but definitely without sacrificing quality. Quality is shown everything else; the fact that consumers now are rebelgent means it's not practical to sit poor quality, they won't buy it no matter how low the price is. We made sure we have both: outstanding quality and the perfect price point," declares Dr. Cecilio K. Pedro, President of Lamoiyan Corporation.

Lamoiyan is the company responsible for introducing many popular affordable products such as their "Wapos" line of toothpaste products for its oral care regiment. The company also introduced more affordable household care products like Saez dishwashing paste and all-purpose kitchen cleaner. Lamoiyan is also the same company who gave the "Lonalo" and Boo soft-mints shampoo that is priced low enough that even poor families can afford and like expensive foreign brands that are not designed to suit the Filipino body and skin type.

Dr. Pedro adds that despite stiff competition from foreign media brands, Lamoiyan stands to its creed of excellence in the manufacture of their products by imposing on their manufacturing processes over the years in order to make them products better than the competition.

"I believe we did things right because we have been reaping the benefits of keeping our products affordable and of high quality. Pretty soon, we will realize our vision, which is to have Lamoiyan products in every Wapos household."

Sun Life shatters the myth of the insurance agent

TRADITIONAL INSURANCE AGENTS SUFFER a stigma. They endure the image of being a pesky salesman who is also inept in their duty to offer sound advice on money management. The advent of Sun Life Financial's "Online Big" campaign is expected to enlighten the public on the merits and benefits of financial planning as a career.

Riding on the success of its "Time", the first financial literacy advocacy in the country, Sun Life is once again leading the path of innovation in its attempt to uplift the image of its agency force. "For starters, we now address them as financial advisors instead of insurance agents. Financial advisors is wider. Certified financial practitioners they roles have become," explains Sun Life's chief agency distribution officer Bina Ramirez.

Recently, Sun Life division recruited ADs, hence began to go to international dailies and glossies as well as billboards on major thoroughfares in the metro. The multi-media blitz is capped by new TV commercials in leading cable and GMA networks. As part of platforms, the thematic ads visualize how foreign Sun Life advisor can be a one-on-one situation: you help people plan for the future as you enrich your present.

"By joining the company as a Sun Life advisor, one can either start with little money, with little, and build the wealth for tomorrow, or with little, or achieve all in one. With little money. It's a great lifestyle proposition, don't you think?" proves Bina Lizza, Sun Life's chief marketing officer.

Entertainment also serves as the pillar of the program. Recently, some 21 advisors received their diplomas from the prestigious IESE Alumni Institute of Management for successfully completing the Sun Life-sponsored Financial Planning Course (FPC). FPC taught the trainees about the basics of financial planning and such topics as derivatives, swaps, financial forecasting and other facets that are very much advanced than what is normally being taught in training programs offered by the industry. Most Sun Life advisors are scheduled to take up the course in future classes to become SLF-AFM certified financial planners.

Bottomline, all of these is back to one company's world-wide mission of providing financial security to people more than lifetime. The more Sun Life advisors there are, the more we will be able to achieve this goal," concludes Sun Life-Philippines President and chief executive officer Pete Manikan.

Sun Life Financial Philippines introduced life insurance in the Philippines in 1906 and is a member of the Sun Life Financial group of companies. Sun Life Financial is a leading international financial services organization providing a diverse range of protection and wealth and retirement products and services to individuals and corporate customers. Chartered in 1865, Sun Life Financial and its partners today have operations in key markets worldwide, including Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Japan, Indonesia, India, China and Bermuda. As of Sept. 30, 2009, the Sun Life Financial group of companies had total assets under management and administration of CDN$404 billion. For more information please visit www.sunlife.com.

Urgently needed experienced

Chemist or **Pharmacist**

A Singapore based Bio-Tech company is looking for an experienced Chemist/Pharmacist familiar with various aspects such as Agriculture, Pharmaceutical, Food and Beverage, and Cosmetics.

Requirements:

1. Minimum 5 years working experience with marketing skills
2. Able to work independently with minimum supervision.
3. Self-motivated, highly driven and willing to travel.
4. Female, presentable appearance is a must and able to take a challenge.
5. A graduate of a reputable school

Job Description:

1. To meet industry leaders in various centers to promote and market this breakthrough in Bio-Technology.
2. To assist in new area development and implementation of applications relating to this technology into various industries.

Interested parties may email their resume with picture to [redacted] and call [redacted] for an interview appointment.

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ACCOUNT MANAGER (Code: AM)

Responsibilities:

- [redacted]

Qualifications:

- [redacted]

Please send your application letter and resume to [redacted]

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Regional Office No. IV-A
[redacted]

April 15, 2010

NOTICES OF FILING OF APPLICATION FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT (AEP)

[redacted]

	Name and Address of Company/Employer	Name and Address of Foreign National	Position and Brief Description of Duties/Work
1.	[redacted]	Mr. [redacted]	President and Chief Executive Officer
2.	[redacted]	Mr. [redacted]	Director
3.	[redacted]	[redacted]	Director
4.	[redacted]	[redacted]	General Manager
5.	[redacted]	[redacted]	APPO Lead
6.	[redacted]	[redacted]	VP – Marketing
7.	[redacted]	[redacted]	General Manager – Hair Tax Division
8.	[redacted]	[redacted]	Vice President for Production
9.	[redacted]	[redacted]	Consultant/ Director Manager

If you have any information objection to the above mentioned applications please communicate with the Regional Director

[redacted]

ATTY. ROLANDO G. BRIONES, JR., CESO III
Regional Director

To avail of free job referral, placement, and employment assistance services, visit the nearest Public Employment Service Office (PESO) or log on at www.philjobnet.gov

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- **Resident Physicians**
  - Licensed Physician
- **Speech Therapist**
  - Male or Female
  - Pleasing Personality
  - Assertive
  - Can focus on correcting and alleviating speech and language disorders
- **Radiologist**
  - Male or Female
  - Fellow, Philippine College of Radiology
  - Fellow, Philippine Ultrasound Society of the Philippines
  - Fellow, CT-MRI Society of the Philippines
  - Preferably a resident of La Union or nearby provinces

For interested applicants, visit or contact:

EMILY JOY ACOSTA-GACAD, PhD.
Executive Director, Human Resource
Lorma Medical Center
Tel. No. (072) 888-2818 loc. 109
Email Add: emily.gacad@lorma.edu

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
CENTRAL OFFICE BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REI)

The Department of Health, through its Central Office Bids and Awards Committee (COBAC), invites individual Consultants to express its eligibility and shortlisting for the following projects:

Name of Project	Brief Description of the Project	Type	Funding Source	Evaluation Procedure
[redacted]	To hire consultancy services in monitoring and assessing compliance to the enforcement of smoke-free ordinances and trends over time which will provide information and data for monitoring enforcement of the ordinances. The consultant will gather data on compliance and violations of the smoke-free ordinances, conduct analysis of violations, prepare progress and recommendations, including implementation	Individual	Recurring Interim Project	Consultant's Qualification Selection

1. The COBAC shall draw up the short list of consultants from those who have submitted eligibility documents/expression of interest and those found eligible and responsive with the provisions of Republic Act 9184 (RA 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act" and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). The short-list shall consist of a minimum of three (3) prospective bidders who will be invited to submit bids.
2. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria as specified in the RA 9184 and its IRR, and is restricted to Filipino citizens/organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest belonging to citizens of the Philippines. In accordance with the said RA 9184 & its IRR, only duly licensed Philippine nationals shall be allowed to participate in the bidding. Foreign consultants may participate if their services are unavailable from Philippine nationals who are determined as such during post-qualification.

   The criteria and rating system for the evaluation of bids shall be provided in the Instructions to Bidders.
3. Interested consultants may obtain further information from the Department of Health at the address given below and inspect the Bidding Documents.

Interested consultants should download and submit the REI at the PHILGEPS website, www.philgeps.gov.ph or through the website at the DOH, www.doh.gov.ph.

The DOH reserves the right to accept or reject any REI, to cancel the bidding process, to reject all bids and may not award the contract without incurring any liability and makes no assurances that a contract shall be entered into as a result of the bidding. If the proposed contract cannot be negotiated successfully, changes so as to render the project no longer economically, financially or technically feasible as determined by the DOH, if the project is no longer necessary as determined by the DOH and when the funds for the proposed contract are withheld or reduced through no fault of the DOH at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

CORAZ MONTESTRUC
Department of Health
Central Office Bids and Awards Committee
[redacted]
Tel. No. 743-0301 Loc. 1001 – 1003, Telefax No. 743-0301 Loc. 1002
Website: www.doh.gov.ph; Email: cobacsecretariat@yahoo.com.ph

Approved by:

[redacted]
Undersecretary of Health
Chairperson, COBAC

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PAG-IBIG CONDUCTS FIRST BARANGAY BRIEFING

Close to 300 representatives of barangays in Quezon City, San Juan and Marikina attended the First Barangay Consultative Dialogue conducted recently by the Home Development Mutual Fund (Pag-IBIG) Cubao Branch. The conference is meant to apprise the local government officials on the provisions as well as the housing benefits which membership with Pag-IBIG brings forth. Republic Act 9679 or The HDMF Law of 2009 requires the mandatory coverage to the Fund of all regular and self-employed workers. Photo shows Pag-IBIG Cubao Branch Manager Vicente Ilary (standing 4th from left, first row), Assistant Manager Perlita Roldan (seated, 7th from left), and Carmina Arevalo, chief of the Marketing and Entertainment Division (standing rightmost, first row) with the first batch of attendees.

GE grid expert: Smart grid technologies reduce number of customers affected by power outages

MANILA Efforts of owners on infrastructure increasingly take its toll on the power industry and the electric utilities in particular, the operator said, but the introduction of smart grid guidance of the grid becomes even more complex. Fortunately GE Smart Grid, or the integration of existing other IT and telecommunications technologies with traditional transmission and distribution equipment, provides electric utilities with the tools to manage the access towards a more robust and reliable system for consumers.

GE Energy has always been in the forefront in providing power generation and energy delivery technologies. Its expanding portfolio of innovative products and services continues to create a positive impact among industries and the general public as well.

"Managing the inconvenience and damage of power outages caused by storms is a great challenge for the utility industry," said Lothar Clemente, general manager, monitoring and consulting services group of energy for GE Energy Services. "As Mother Nature turns out the lights across the country, we are reminded of the broader impact that a smarter grid can have on consumers. Today's smart grid solutions can reduce the number of customers affected by power outages and minimize the impact of outages that do occur by getting power online quicker than ever before."

John Akombe, GE Energy country executive for Philippines/Guam adds, "It was always the case, in the past that utilities were not aware of power outages until a customer called to report them. Smart grid technologies automatically notify utilities of outages and provide visibility into all grid assets, allowing operators to isolate damaged portions of the grid and re-distribute power around damages thus keeping more lines energized. These smart grid systems merge communications and IT with utility operations to better locate damaged assets and expedite repair time. These technology enhancements also improve transformer protection and contain potential hazards in the event of a failure due to overloading."

With the current global concern on energy efficiency and management, GE's Smart Grid can be a powerful tool into making lives of millions of Filipinos more comfortable. GE Energy's commitment of introducing new energy services is an integral part of the company's corporate citizenship initiative that provides integrated solutions to today's environmental challenges.

PLDT BUSINESS SOLUTIONS EMPOWERS HBC

PLDT Business Solutions and Pinoy connected users worldwide. HBC has recently held its contract signing for HBC's connectivity solutions for its corporate requirements which will be for the access over all the Philippine's outside locations. Access to other countries, whether guest-based business accounting should go with international carriers or their in-country HBC started all with connectivity. It handles upwards of birthdays by their specialized services which now includes the network IP, branches nationwide. In doing they've analyzed the PVPN service of a total 1,000 VPN sites. In addition to PLDT VoiceMail and SingaLinkK can access, requiring more than 500 locations across the nation. Photo shows those who PLDT nationwide manager Antonio Gerard A. PLDT AVP and head of corporate relationship management Primo Kalaguian. PLDT VP and head of corporate business group Joey Hernandez. HBC AVP for property management and development group Jose Antonio Ong. HBC president and chief executive officer Alfonso Ong. And HBC information technology specialist Jerry Sarza.

APO FLOORS SUPPORTS LOCAL ARCHITECTURE AT WORLDBEX 2011

APO Floors, the market leader in the manufacturing and distribution of architectural flooring recently participated in the World Building and Construction Exposition (WorldBEX) 2011 at the World Trade Exhibition Complex in Pasay City. Dubbed as the biggest and most ambitious real estate exposition ever held in the country, this provided host the diverse but equal innovative and eco-friendly APO Floors products were showcased at this year's environmentally responsible expo dubbed "Emerging Green Technologies and Design Towards a Holistic Paradigm." APO Floors has been a distributor of environment-friendly flooring products since the early 90s with its well-known brands, which include Herringbone Hardboard, which is being manufactured with the same brand name ASCO, Mirabord Luxury Resilient Floors and APO Hardwood. Photo shows Francisco "Bobby" Medina, one of Philippine architecture's top influential icons, with APO Floors commercial division manager Mikey Castro at the opening of WorldBex 2011.

NOKIA SHARES SMARTPHONE STRATEGY

Nokia Philippines Inc. executives and consumer electronics business manager for South East Asia Pacific (Nokia) Ms. Tina Dimitrijevic (left) and Nokia Philippines country head Ms. Ma. Antonia Yulo Loyzaga (right) share their strategies to enhance the company's smartphone services, following recent announcement of Nokia's strategic partnership with Microsoft. During his visit, Stephen Elop announced the company's plans to drive more innovations in its smartphone platforms to further penetrate its desktop apps and services for the consumer. With Yulo are Nokia Philippines' senior marketing services manager Rhenel Mercado and services marketing manager Corinne Reyes-Ramos.

BEVERLY HILLS LIPA INAUGURATED

Beverly Hills Lipa, a residential project of Carmona Venturas and Resources Development Corp. (CVRDC), was launched last month at the Clubhouse at Beverly Hills, Brgy. Mayurong, Lipa City, Batangas. Present during the event are (from left): Joe Salcedo, operations manager; Margie Torres, landowner; Romy Lobaco, Barangay Mayurong Chair; Mark Bilo, Lipa City Councilor and Housing and Land Use Chair; Tony Torres, landowner; Ray Regalado, president of CVRDC's business unit Iloilo; Manuel Reyes, project engineer. Inspired by the Mediterranean community in Southern California of the same name, Beverly Hills Lipa is an 8.5-hectare development that boasts of world-class amenities and is a joint project with Mayapida Inc. Antonio Torres, Elizabeth Antonio, Antonio Reyes, and Cynthia Pulido. For inquiries, call (043) 757-2244; (02) 823-0-420-22843-4122 or e-mail carmonaventures@ymail.com.

AMBASSADORS VISIT BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB DURING FIESTA SEMANA

Shown are the VIP guests at the Baguio Country Club during the Panagbenga 2011 flower festival. Ambassador of Pakistan Mohsin Kazi (left photo), and Ambassador of Malaysia Dato Seri Dr. Ibrahim Saad (right photo).

Pfizer Philippines Foundation and PBSP launch first ever Pfizer Blue House in the country

BACOOR, Cavite – The population of almost 65,000 live only nine health centers and only two doctors. There are 300 residents and guests were present to participate in the launch and blessing of the Blue House. Pfizer's officials and some colleagues likewise conducted an "Engage" volunteer activity by preparing educational games and distributing Pfizer Consumer Healthcare products.

"Pfizer is a very heart-warming company, very inspiring and uplifting. In line with helping together to be able to contribute to the country, the launch of the Blue House signifies the dedication of all the hard work and dedication of colleagues and local communities," said Gesel.

"As a pharmaceutical company it is but required of us to produce quality medicines that help save diseases. But to go beyond that, and actually make a conscious effort to help the overall healthcare of the Filipino community is indicative of an innate desire burning in our hearts to make a difference," said Gesel.

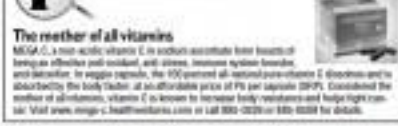
The Pfizer Blue House is a model of a strong commitment to promote collaboration and work with partners for a healthier world. To know more about Pfizer's social responsibility efforts, please visit www.philippines.pfizer.com.ph or e-mail Pfizer Communications@Pfizer.com.

MMC explains how radiation therapy for cancer works

PANCITERIA LIDO SOON TO ROAST IN MARVIN PLAZA, MAKATI CITY

Just recently, Panciteria Lido (Unique Cuisine Co.) signed a contract of lease with Prominent Inc. for Panciteria Lido's fifth branch in Marvin Plaza, Dasmariñas Street, Makati City.

Panciteria Lido is still going strong as ever and as always is ready to cater to the public's hunger for authentic Chinese food. With their home-cooked specialties such as their Fujian steamed fish and Buddha's Lechon Macau, Panciteria Lido is sure to satisfy the most discriminating palate. Backed by more than 17 years of culinary excellence in the Tutuban market, Panciteria Lido has grown to open numerous branches and will surely still continue to serve more exquisitely prepared Chinese food for the generations to come. For inquiries, please e-mail info@panciteriadido.com and for franchising opportunities, please e-mail franchise@panciteriadido.com. You can also call them at 921-4144. Shown are (from left): Christy Sison of Katie Bakeshop, Aurea Bautista of Panciteria Lido, Fay Mallari, marketing manager of Prominent Inc., Gina Sison, administration assistant at Prominent Inc. and Ryan Fernandez, business development director of Panciteria Lido.



AMBASSADORS VISIT BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB DURING PANAGBENGA

Shown are the VIP guests at the Baguio Country Club during the Panagbenga 2011 flower festival. Ambassador of Pakistan Mohsin Kazi (left photo), and Ambassador of Malaysia Dato Seri Dr. Ibrahim Saad (right photo).

Product FILES

The mother of all vitamins

MEGA C, a new acetic vitamin E in sodium ascorbate form boasts of being an effective anti-oxidant, anti-stress, immune system booster, and detoxifier. In veggie capsule, the 100 percent all-natural pure vitamin E threatens and to absorb into the body faster, at an affordable price of Php per capsule (SRP). Considered the mother of all vitamins, vitamin C is known to repair body membranes and help collagen production. Visit www.mega-c.healthwealthasia.com or call 800-0220 or 800-0888 for details.

What every board director must know

THERE THESE "corporate housekeeping" refers to the multitude of services that a corporate secretary (who could be a lawyer or a non-lawyer) need to get done for a corporate entity. It is what every corporation needs to do and hence its business as well.

The Center for Global Best Practices is holding an SEC-accredited seminar entitled, "Best Practices in Corporate Housekeeping: The Expert's Guide On How to be the Effective Corporate Secretary" on Thursday and Friday, April 28 and 29 at The Iloilo Shangri-La, Mandaluyong City. This special pioneering program teaches board directors, lawyers, and CFOs the knowledge and professional skills on how to be an effective corporate secretary and how to perform the functions of the corporate secretary well.

This one-and-a-half day seminar would be of special benefit to, among others, corporations, business owners, directors, and managers who may want to know how best to use the services of the corporate secretary; new lawyers who may wish to learn the best practices in corporate housekeeping; older lawyers who may want to add to their experience or to remind their knowledge of such practice; law firms and corporate law departments who may wish to provide additional training to their lawyers and paralegals; compliance officers of public corporations; and accountants, auditors, and accounting firms who may wish to expand their services so as to include the provision of corporate housekeeping services to their clients.

The program will feature lawyer Tristan A. Catindig, MD, cum laude, UP 1982; LL.B., cum laude, UP 1986; LL.M., Harvard Law School, Harvard University (alcohol, 1987) who has been in corporate law practice for more than 40 years, 26 years of which is now with the largest law firm in the Philippines, SyCip Salazar Hernandez and Gatmaitan, where he was senior partner and head, corporate services dept. The second lecturer will be lawyer A. Baquiz K. Tan (AB, valedictorian, San Beda College, 1976; LL.B., JD 1980; Master of Laws, New York University, 6th place, 1981; Bar examinations) who is the managing partner of the Tan Acut-amora Valdez Law Office. Presently, he is a board director of 15 firms and is retained as corporate secretary to 20 of the some of the largest publicly listed and private corporations.

Pre-registration is required for this limited seats only event. Early bird discounts may be availed for those who will register early and group discount for attendees of three or more. For more information, call 687-7340/ 29 or e-mail mailed@cgbp.org.

ACES BAGS TOP PLUM AT REX BOOKSTORE'S GREAT MINDS CHALLENGE

A love for reading, passion and diligence for studying, as well as a fun and positive attitude towards academic competitions, are qualities shared by three young students from Rizal Elementary School (Rizal Technical School) (Rizal) Science City of Munoz, Nueva Ecija. These three were awarded as grand champions of the inaugural Rex Bookstore Great Minds Challenge. Aces' winning team was composed of Joseph Mirhan dela Cruz, Carlos Leonel Mesa, and Mika Celeste de Leon together with their coach Emma Pacheco. The Great Minds Challenge is an interscholastic level of different schools around the country that is for students to test the

632 New Scholars Posted for CARD MRI Scholarship Program

Even as the CARD Mutually Reinforcing Institutions (CARD MRI) celebrates its 20th year in public service , the CARD MRI Scholarship Program (CSP) grants 632 High School and College scholarships to CARD clients and their children. Every year, the CARD MRI-developed human resource institute, the CARD MRI, conducts a nationwide CSP qualifying examination to help society and financially challenged students pursue their dream of higher education. CSP was initially created for the sons and daughters of CARD clients who are determined to finish schooling but are financially incapable. In 2003, the Tita Cory Scholarship Fund-Balik-Eskwela or Nanay Program was established to send back to school Nanays whose education was interrupted by poverty. It was named in honor of the late President Cory Aquino, who epitomized the heart of every Nanay: courageous and undaunted to seek a better life for herself and her family.

From the initial four Balik-Eskwela or Nanay scholars, it now has a total of 14 CARD mother-members battling a once familiar ground of books and texbox and assignments. Early this month, two of them received their High School diploma and one obtained her bachelor's degree. Dr. Joanne Verzosa, St. Kitts, Founder and Managing Director of CARD MRI, staunchly believes that Microfinance and Education are key in breaking the chain of intergenerational illiteracy and poverty. We visited two of the graduates in their homes to personally offer his warmest congratulations.

Today, CARD has 1, 348 current and 736 graduated scholars. Many of those who graduated in the fields of business, computer and communications were eventually hired by the MRIs. Thus far, CSP's roster of scholars include accountants, bankers, engineers, communicators, IT specialists, economists, entrepreneurs, and agriculturists, among others. CARD MRI envisions these scholars to be the next leaders in the microfinance landscape locally or abroad.

CARD MRI Insurance Agency (CARMA) also has 15 on-going scholars and is poised to give another 10 slots to those who will meet its selection criteria. A special scholarship program is also given to children of CARE staff who passed away or was incapacitated while serving the MRIs. CSP reaches to the remotest of communities, it has four Masters and Bagobo scholars taking BSBA major in Microfinance Management.

CARD, which offers an integrated array of products and services (loans, savings, microinsurance, business development, education, health package) through a group of mutually reinforcing institutions (CARD MBD, CARD Bank , CARD SMEA, CARD MRI Development Institute, CARMI, CARD IBOB Foundation, CARD MRI technology Technology and RBTI), is viewed by most of its clients as a card of hope. In-house studies repeatedly showed how CARD MRI helped the Nanays put more and better food on the table, send their children to school and improve their living conditions. More recently, the Nanays' creativity and entrepreneurial spirit were showcased through Mga Likha ni Nay – a collection of the Nanays' products marketed in CARD Business Development Service Foundation's display centers and partner stores like SM Kultura, St. Francis Square, and Boarders, among others. Indeed, hand in hand, CARD MRI and the Nanays are building better tomorrows. ###

(Top left) Mr. Lubos Antonio B. Ally, CARD MRI Executive and Managing Director (Top right) CARD Bank Members and Scholar TARA ABA Elementary Records Section Assistant Ma. Ivy Lorna Bravante proudly poses with her daughter Scholarship Grant Awardee Qhel Ivan Ingles and CPLO Rose Agnes Bala (3rd from right) during the graduation ceremony on April 1, 2011 at Florida Memorial High School in Malapatan, Lagunoy, Nanay Francisca and Nanay Lorna are Graduates of the first batch of the Tita Cory Scholarship Fund - Balik-Eskwela scholarship Program of the CARD Microfinance Institutions. In 2003, CARD MRI launched this program in honor of the late President Cory Aquino. Ethelwoldo Jr. BSPA Balik scholars took advantage of the Accreditation and Equivalency program of the Department of Education to complete high school after they discontinued years ago while they were younger. Ethelwoldo and Nelia are now proudly family members of the CARD MRI Development Institute's (DevInstitute) CARD Inc. member Mary Myla Jacalne-Head of Automatic Unit in Davao Cotabato Branch) earned her BSBA degree in Management degree at the Ateneo Dawao at Dadiangas University in General Santos City in its commencement exercises on March 26, 2011. Nanay Rosalie was the first of six children who was awarded the scholarship at the time she looked back to go back to college to finish her last semester. One of the first batch of Lemery scholars, Nanay Myla actually completed all the requirements for graduation in October 2010. The photo shows her with her two kids, father and mom. Photos by Dr. Joy Navarro, CARD

In good faith, CARD MRI congratulates the following qualifiers for the 12th Batch of CARD MRI Scholars:

CARD MRI Scholarship Program (Batch 12 Qualifiers by Area)

BENGUET

Cattle Area

Central Benguet

Ramos, Cynthia B.
Ramos, Ma. Lourdes E.
Sanchez, Regie T.

Buguias

Bernardo, Jaime Chavez Jr.
Pangilan, Mercedes S.
Pangilan, Rose Mercedes S.
Ma. Victoria Jane C.

Bokod

Bagtang, Mercedes M.
Bernardo, Jaime C.
Cattleya, Anne Ingrid
Cattleya, Anne Ingrid
Cattleya, Anne Ingrid

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Ceron Jose Encomienda

76 years old

responded to the summons of the Lord

on March 9, 2011.

1 year, 8 months, and 10 days

after he was first diagnosed with liver cancer in Arizona.

His remains were cremated and there was no wake.

While he had to deal with some discomforts, he lived a life of joy

with the loving support and ministrations of his wife Jessica,

who with his children, Rina, Jessica, Regina, Agnes, Ramon and Mona,

convey his wish that those who cared about him may gather

to share reminiscences and perhaps, food and say a prayer

to celebrate his eternal life.

A 40th day mass will be held on

Thursday, April 14, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

at Fatima Hills, Quezon City

For more details and to confirm your attendance please contact

Jessica Encomienda at 0928 5023976 / 0922 8469457

In Loving Memory

On the 15th Death Anniversary of

ASUNCION M. GEMPERLE

August 7, 1931 – April 11, 1996

We, her family, together with her brothers, sisters, and relatives, request the prime readers to remember her in their prayers.

Holy Masses will be offered on April 11, 2011, Monday at the following churches:

SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO ..... 5:15 AM, 7:00 AM
Greenhills Road, Forbes Park, Makati City 12:15 Noon, 6:00 PM

ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGUORI PARISH ..... 8:00 AM
Magallanes Village, Makati City 11:15 Noon, 6:00 PM

ST. JOHN BOSCO-DON BOSCO CHURCH ..... 6:30 AM, 7:00 AM
Pinagkaisahan, Cubao, Quezon City 12:15 Noon, 6:00 PM

OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL SHRINE ..... 8:00 AM, 7:00 AM, 6:00 PM
Avila Avenue Rodriguez St., Mandaluyong City

SHRINE THE KING PARISH ..... 9:00 AM, 7:00 AM, 6:00 PM
Greenmeadows Ave., Quezon City

SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE ..... 9:15AM, 7:15 AM, 6:15 PM
Greenhills East, San Juan, Metro Manila

MARY THE QUEEN PARISH ..... 6:00 AM, 7:00 AM, 5:00 PM
Greenhills West, San Juan, Metro Manila

Message of Thanks

For waiting us and being with us in our time of sorrows...
For praying with us and for us...
For the Mass cards and messages of sympathy and condolences...
For the beautiful flowers to express compassion...
For joining us in our nightly vigils...
For attending the mass and the funeral rites...
For thinking of us in our hour of grief...
For all that you have done to console our hearts.

Our sincere gratitude from the family of the late

MEYNARD Y. MANALO, M.D.

of Roxas, Occidental, Mindoro

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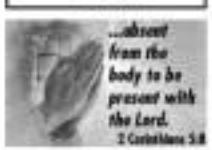
G/F Transfer's Life Bldg., 496 T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita Manila (in front of National Library)
Trunkline 526-0233



Our beloved mother has joined our Creator on April 6, 2011 after living 78 years of giving selfless and unconditional love to a mother, friend, architect and civil servant.

Arch'I. CONSTANCIA "Tancing" R. LUMANG-CAJIGAL

Her remains lie in state at her residence in 19 Lansing St., Bel-Air, Makati. Brave Souls Interment will be on April 11, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at the Rizal Catholic Cemetery.

We request the prime readers, relatives and friends to pray for her eternal repose.

Chito, Cecilia & Rachel, Celia, Celmelda, Carmina, Apple & Tito
Rayna, Pia, Ria-Ann, Pauline, Anja, Anika & Jana

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."
2 Timothy 4:7

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ATTENTION: Business Owners
Publication of your
Termination of your
Change of your
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Meet the MBTI® Certification Expert and Lead Trainer

THE MYERS-BRIGGS TYPE Indicator®(MBTI) is the world's most popular personality tool for people development. Mr. Lead Trainer, Michael Segovia, will be coming to the Philippines to conduct the international training "MBTI Certification Program" on July 26 to 29, 2011 at the Discovery Suites, Ortigas, Pasig. In his 20-plus years of experience with the MBTI tool, Michael served as Divisional Director of CPP Inc., the publisher of the MBTI. He was also the Chair of the Industrial and Organizational Division for the Association of Test Publishers and has appeared on Talk Radio, Retirement TV's Money Beat, and the Wall Street Journal podcast to discuss assessment issues in career management, training, and development. This dynamic and inspiring trainer has helped HR professionals, OD Specialists, Counselors, Executive Coaches, and Trainers worldwide possess the knowledge and skills to improve the performance of people and organizations using the MBTI instrument. Whether in the U.S., India, Russia, China, South Africa, Korea, Dubai, or other parts of the globe, Michael effectively shows how to use the MBTI tool in building successful teams, improving communication and decision-making styles, managing conflict, developing effective leaders, producing a high performance workforce and increasing profitability. As one participant from Long Beach, California said, "Michael was the best trainer I have ever experienced in an adult learning environment—clear, organized, enthusiastic, personable—really a joy to learn from! I aspire to be as effective as he is."

Attend the 4-day MBTI Certification Program on July 26 to 29 at the Discovery Suites, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, and learn how to effectively design and implement human resource and organizational development initiatives from the MBTI Lead Trainer himself. For further information and reservation, contact Philippine Psychological Corp. (PhilPsyCor) (0928-6327 to 29, 631-7481 or email philpsycor@gmail.com

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